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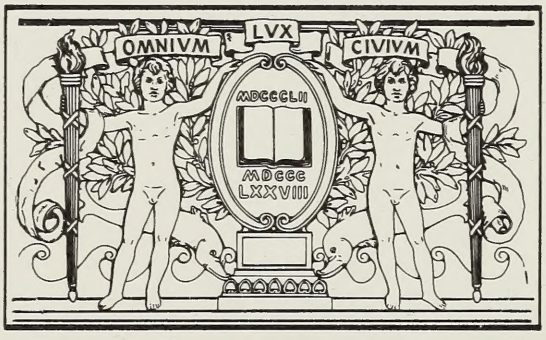
Vidrine - Védrines

Our Védrines In France

1600-1750

Jacqueline Olivier Vidrine



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VIDRINE ~ VÉDRINES

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The cover design is the cachet of François Vedrines (1599?-1657). The timeless phrase used as the epigraph is from the correspondence of M. Carmeille (1896-1979) of Septfonds près Lapèze.

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Preface

Begun twenty-five years ago, the project to write a history of our children's paternal ancestry has developed into a major one. Material has been gathered for three volumes. This first small edition is "...not without its faults but it has the great merit of..." finally appearing in print.

Because the research was begun before any thought of publication, because of my inexperience in the beginning, because of my rush to make use of every moment in the French archives, some footnotes are incomplete. In a few instances a document copy was sent to me without exact citation, so only the collection could be noted. In some cases the documents are in numbered bundles but no listing or pagination exists. Several pertinent lists of notarial documents and church registers are included in Appendix A to help make up for this. For the researcher armed with the dates and places I have provided, my lapses in citing specific volume and bundle numbers should not present a problem.

The reader will notice variations in spelling. This frequently occurred in the old registers, sometimes within a single document. Variations of proper names also appear in guidebooks and on maps and signposts. With one exception, I use the orthography as it occurs in the original. The ancient manuscripts are almost always devoid of the accent marks.

The words left in French are of two kinds: those so well-known that they require no further clarification, and others difficult to explain concisely. In many cases, the latter would create a diversion if translated and defined

sufficiently. It is suggested that several dictionaries (such as those listed in the bibliography) be used, to confirm a term's meaning within the context of its historical and geographical period.

I plan to continue work on a true oeuvre; but, in the meantime, this preliminary study is being published to serve as the starting point for Volume II: The Védrines in Louisiana Province. The history of the places Jean Baptiste Lapaise Védrines lived and the lives of the people he knew are important parts of the story of early Louisiana and of the early Vedrines here.

Historical research on the area where Jean Baptiste Lapaise was born in 1712 has been difficult. The few books that concern the history of the Department of Lot-et-Garonne before his departure around 1740 were published in France and are inaccessible outside of rare book depositories. Books I have acquired as gifts and purchases are not sufficient to show how the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries might have affected Jean Baptiste and his ancestors. The material found for the specific rural communities involved in the Védrines story was far too little to be able to integrate the lives of the early Védrines with the effects of local incidents, either natural or political, except in a most general way -- and then only in a few isolated circumstances.

It is hoped that this volume will be accepted as a study-in-progress. The attempt to record the story of a family in its historical context has a way of calling attention to empty spaces. Unknowns in the Védrines history remain. Searching usually results in discoveries; researching presents new questions as it answers the old ones. For instance, the study of Sainte-Livrade and its Védrines should still be done by someone with more experience in that area and era. Perhaps this record will encourage a Frenchman to undertake further research. Maybe a descendant of one of the nieces of Jean Baptiste Lapaise will unearth the missing family information. Perhaps a student of the social history of that part of France will write about the milieu in which the Védrines lived. It is my wish that the information presented here will inspire others to initiate related projects. Too little is known of the European background of Louisiana's people.

When Volume III: The Vidrines in Louisiana is completed, I plan to return to the study of the Lot River Valley history and then give dimension to the portrayal of the Védrines ancestors. Every effort has been made to make the history and genealogy of the Védrines family as accurate and as complete as possible. I will be thankful

for any information about errors or new findings which should be recorded for a revised edition.

Acknowledgments

Without the cooperation of many individuals, research could not have been so fruitful nor near as much fun.

Twenty-five years ago, Jules Ashlock prompted my initial interest. He asked me to look for material on "the Vidrine duel" for his newspaper. So began my historical research.

Ruth Robertson Fontenot of Ringrose Plantation in Opelousas had dealt for many years with the church and civil records there, where the story of the duel might have been recorded. She became my first teacher in archival work.

The search led ultimately to France. Husband Drouet supported my ambition with more than the proverbial passport. He is the gregarious one. Often while I sat in a library he visited the town, talking to clerks and customers in the shops, asking directions and then eliciting long conversations. Those conversations produced some of my most valuable interviews.

With him I enjoyed discovering the treasures of France - its places, its papers, and, most of all, its people - those of the distant past and those we have had the glorious opportunity to know.

Many provided time and talk, hospitality, information, letters of enquiry, letters of introduction. Some have helped with information about different historical times, places, and people in ways that added to the general knowledge necessary for archival research. Some will recognize their gifts of books and maps in the biblio-

graphy. Many are recognized in the footnote citations and in the lists of correspondence and interviews.

My deepest gratitude is for the assistance and encouragement of Monsieur and Madame Jean Védrine of Asnieres and Mademoiselle L. Bourrachot of Agen. The following also deserve special mention:

M. and Mme Jean de Védrines of Monflanquin
M. and Mme Pierre Castéja of Barsac
M. Philippe de Védrines of Rouen
M. P. Coudray de Lille of Bordeaux
Mme du Vigneau of Bordeaux
M. and Mme Jean-Pierre Serbonnet of Paris
Mlle Marie-Jose Godin of Paris
Mme Pierre Jeannin of La Ferte-Imbault
M. et Mme Jacques Védrine of Lyon
The Marcel Carmeille-Jean Soulié family of Septfonds

The competence of the librarians and archivists in both the United States and France saved measureless time; their assistance was invaluable. The footnote citations of depositories and libraries must serve as recognition for the individual efforts of their staffs.

The Center of Louisiana Studies at the University of Southwestern Louisiana provided professional guidance during the development of the manuscript. One library that is not listed in the bibliography has been of service throughout the last twenty-five years: our Evangeline Parish Library in Ville Platte. The staff there has shown inexhaustible patience in securing for me the books that could be borrowed.

The mass of information gathered over the years might not have been printed if two friends had not volunteered to type the first draft: Ramona Amelia Smith and A. C. "JoJo" Reed. I am also indebted to dear Father Donald J. Hébert and his typist, Rhoda Huckaby, for preparing this final copy, and to Dave Edmonds who chose it for publication.

Most of all, credit is due Jan Tate of Mamou. Jan's unfailing support, knowledge of historical writing and thorough editing produced the remarkable improvement that occurred between the first draft and this final history.

Many people helped me. I could not have done it without them. But I, alone, am responsible for any errors.

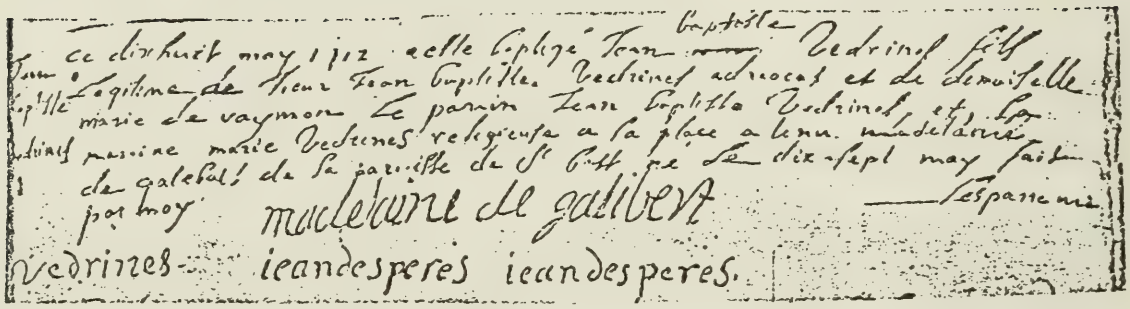
Ville Platte, Louisiana
August, 1981

Jacqueline Olivier Vidrine

Rien n'a changé ici depuis notre passage parmi nous, seul le décor a changé, ce fleuve le Lot que vous avez pu admirer poursuit inlassablement sa course vers la Garonne entre sa baie de peupliers qui n'ont plus de feuilles.

Marcel Carmeille
à Septfonds près Lapeze
Sainte-Livrade
France

Jean Baptiste Lapaise Védrines
born 1712



ce dix huit may 1712 a este baptizé Jean baptiste Vedrines fils
Jean baptiste vedrines
Legitime de Sieur Jean baptiste Vedrines advocat et de demoiselle
marie de raymon Le parin Jean baptiste Vedrines, et La
marraine marie Vedrines religeuse a Sa place a tenu madelaine
de galebert de la paroisse de St. ---- né Le dix Sept may fait
par moy Lesparre vicaire

madelaine de galibert
vedrines jean desperes jean desperes

This eighteenth of May 1712 was baptized Jean Baptiste Vedrines, legitimate son of Sieur Jean Baptiste Vedrines, advocate, and of demoiselle Marie de Raymond; the godfather Jean Baptiste Vedrines and the godmother Marie Vedrines, a nun, represented by Madelaine de Galebert of the parish of St. ----; born the seventeenth May, done by me.

Baptism 18 May 1712 at Sainte-Livrade
Archives Départementales de Lot-et-Garonne,
Agen, France, E. Supp. 3692

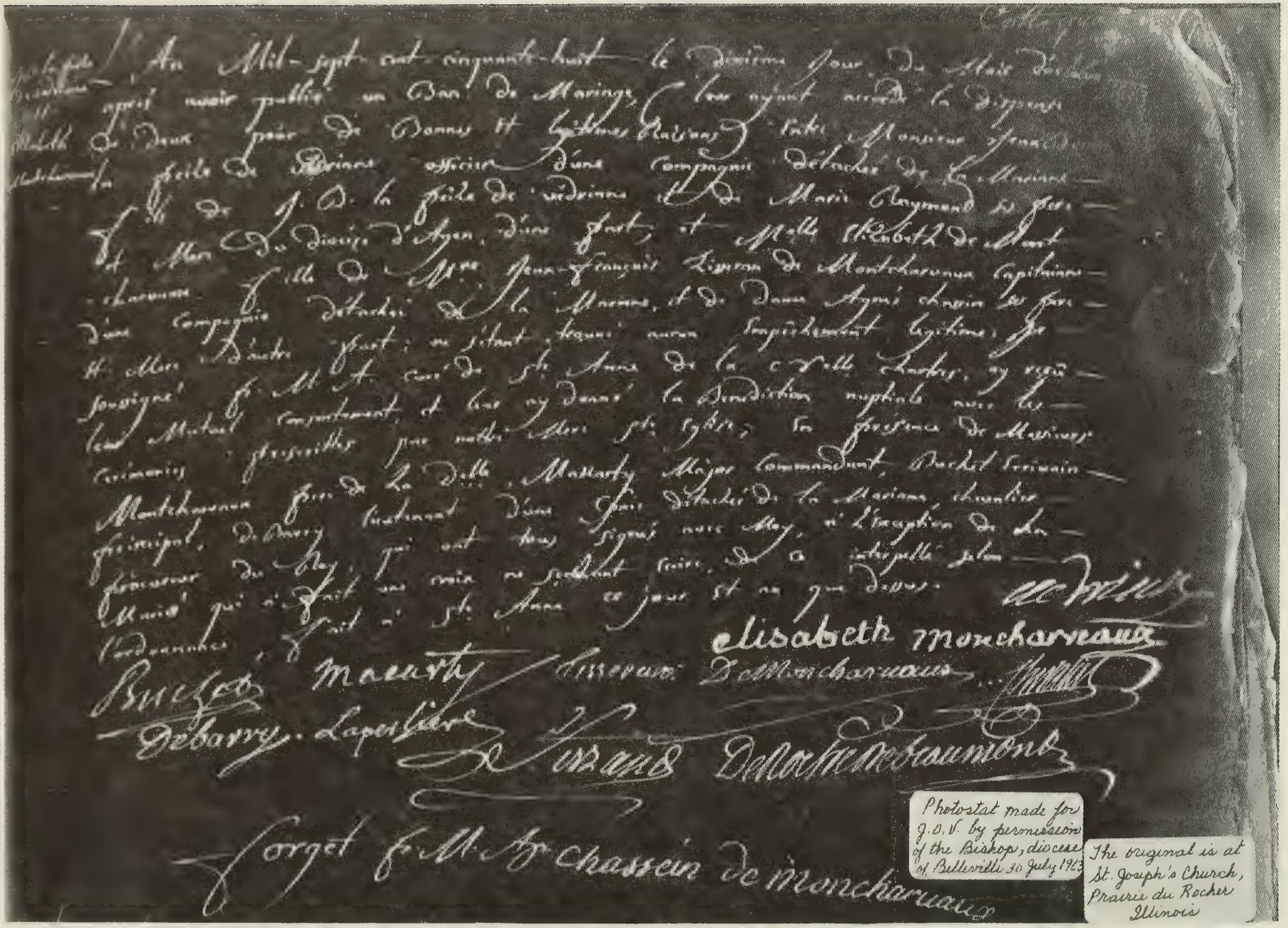
Chapter 1

Jean Baptiste Lapaise Védrines

Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES was the first VEDRINES to come to the New World, and it is his story that was the incentive for research in France. The spelling became VIDRINE while Louisiana was under Spanish rule. All the many VIDRINEs in the United States who trace their ancestry back to St. Landry and Evangeline parishes in Louisiana are descended from the two sons of Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES and his wife Elizabeth TISSERAND de Moncharvaux.

"Lapaise" is used as part of Jean Baptiste's name throughout this text although only two documents have been found that use the name as part of his. One of these is a procuration, a power-of-attorney, that he signed "Jean Lapeze Vedrines" in 1765.[1] The other is his marriage record in 1758, where the priest wrote "Jean Baptiste Lapeize Vedrines". There the groom signed simply "vedrines",[2] his usual signature on documents in America. It is reasonable to assume that Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES used the name on documents that involved his family in France as a way of distinguishing between himself and his brother and nephew in Barsac.

The document that follows records the marriage of this couple, in Illinois in 1758. It is this source that first gave an indication of his place of birth in France, the Diocese of Agen.



Photostat made for J.D.V. by permission of the Bishop, diocese of Belleville 30 July 1913

The original is at St. Joseph's Church, Prairie du Rocher Illinois

J. B. Lapeize
de vedrinne
Et
Elizabith
Montcharvaux

L'An Mil-sept-cent-cinquante-huit le dixiéme Jour du Mois d'octobre
aprés avoir publié un Ban de Mariage (leur ayant accordé la dispense
pour de Bonnes et legitimes Raisons) Entre Monsieur Jean B.
la peize de védrinne officier d'une compagnie detachée de la Marinne
fils de J. B. la peize de védrinne et de Marie Raymond ses pere
et Mere du diocese d'Agen, d'un part; et Melle Elizabeth de Mont-
-charvaux fille de Mre Jean-françois Tisseran de Montcharvaux Capitainne
d'une Compagnie detachée de la Marinne, et de dame Agnés chassin ses pere
Et Mere d'autre part; ne s'etant trouvé aucun empêchment legitime: Je
Soussigné p. M. A. curé de Ste Anne de la n^velle^ chartres, ay reçû
leur Mutuel consentement, et leur ay donné la Benediction nuptiale avec les
Ceremonies prescrites par notre Mere Ste Eglise; En presence de Messieurs
Montcharvaux frere de la d^elle^, Ma Karty Major Commandant, Buchet Ecrivain
principal, de Barry lieutenant d'une Cpnie detachée de la Marinne, chevalier
procurer du Roy, qui ont tous signés avec Moy, a L'exception de La
Mariée qui a fait une croix ne sçachant Ecrire, de ce interpellé selon
l'ordonnance, fait a Ste Anne ce jour Et an que dessus.

ve drines
elisabeth Moncharveaux
Tisseran: De Moncharvaux Chevalier
Juzan De Roche de beaumont
Chassein de Moncharvaux

Buchet Macarty
Debarry Laperliere

forget. p. M. Ap.

J. B. lapeize de vedrinne and Elizabeth Montcharvaux

The year one thousand seven hundred fifty-eight, the tenth day of the month of October, after having published one bann of marriage (having given them dispensation for two for good and legitimate reasons) between Monsieur Jean B. la peize de Vedrinne, officer of a detached company of the Marine, son of J. B. la peize de Vedrinne and of Marie Raymond, his father and mother of the diocese of Agen, on the one part; and Mademoiselle Elizabeth de Montcharvaux, daughter of Jean-Francois Tisseran de Montcharvaux Captain of a detached company of the Marine, and of Dame Agnes Chassin, her father and mother, on the other part; not having found any legitimate impediments: I the undersigned p. M. A., pastor of Sainte Anne of New Chartres, have received their mutual consent and have given them the nuptial blessing with the ceremonies prescribed by our Holy Mother Church, in the presence of Messieurs Montcharvaux, brother of the young girl; MaKarty, Major Commander; Buchet, principal scribe; de Barry, lieutenant of a detached company of the Marine; Chevalier, the King's representative, who have all signed with me, with the exception of the bride who made a cross not knowing how to write*, when called upon according to the requirement. Done at Sainte Anne's this day and year stated above.

vedrines

Buchet Macarty elisabeth Moncharveaux

Tisseran: De Moncharvaux Chevalier

Debarry Laperliere

Juzan**

DeRochedebeaumont

forget p. M. ap. *** Chassein de Moncharvaux

* The bride did sign, in spite of the priest's comment. Perhaps it is her brother who could not sign. However, no cross is visible.

** Although this looks like Ferrand or Tissand, it is very much like the signature of "p. Juzan" on his marriage 8 November 1758 at Mobile (Alabama). See Vedrine, Mobile Church Archives, Marriage Book I: Transcriptions of Mobile Marriages, 1724-1786. See also Brown and Dean, Village of Chartres, p. 207, which has "Ferrand".

*** Abbe Forget de Verges "priest, apostolic missionary".

(Original at St. Joseph's Church, Prairie du Rocher, Diocese of Belleville, Illinois. Photostat made by special permission of the bishop, 1963.)

The marriage record contained another clue, one that had been misread by numerous researchers between the late 19th century and 1977,[3] and one that was overlooked by this author for several years. The name that looks like la freile is really lapeize. Note the priest's formation of "p" in the words principal and procurer, lines 14 and 15, and the "z" in Elizabeth, line 6.

Lapaise is the clan name by which one branch of Louisiana VIDRINEs is still distinguished from the others. Because of my research on Louisiana's colonial families[4] and Jan Tate's research on the clan development among their descendants,[5] I knew the most common use of an added name that was not obviously a sobriquet was a reference to the place of birth or residence of the progenitor of a clan. I found Lapèze on a large scale map.[6] We traveled there in 1972 and took the pictures that illustrate this book.

Lapèze is a lieu-dit - a "named-place", a neighborhood, a farming community - on the outskirts of the town of Sainte-Livrade in the Department of Lot-et-Garonne, whose civil and ecclesiastical capital city is Agen. The ancient name "Agenais" is still used to describe the area of the Lot and the Garonne river valleys.

Three variations in spelling can be noted. The three forms -- Lapèze, Lapeize and Lapaise -- refer to the same small rural area in France. Each spelling will be used as it occurs in the documents referred to in the text. "Lapaise" is more familiar in Louisiana and so that form is added to this Jean Baptiste's name for exact identification, its original purpose.

It is known that the VEDRINES family owned the area of Lapeze at one time -- certainly before 1622, when at least three different, but certainly related, VEDRINES owned large farms there.[7] It is possible that the first VEDRINES of the Sainte-Livrade area made his home at that particular place when he migrated, perhaps in the fifteenth century, probably from the area of France called le Massif central.[8]

As research progressed, it became clear that the family of Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES had been members of the upper bourgeoisie and, for several generations, had held prominent offices in their community. The father, grandfather and great-grandfather VEDRINES

were all lawyers, judges or counselors of Parlement.

What did it mean to be a lawyer or judge before 1700?

Henry IV at the very beginning of the seventeenth century restored the functions of courts and parlements. By 1614 the Third Estate, represented by lawyers, surprised the nobles and the clergy with strong proposals affecting these two groups and proclaiming the rights of the king over both nobles and the pope.[9]

Very early in his reign Henry had put forth measures that allowed heritability of judicial offices resulting in a new and rival class, the nobility of the robe. Henry IV was allowing bureaucratic officials to buy the right to transmit their office to a son not only to help his treasury but to strengthen the conservative, royalist bourgeoisie and to provide continuity and stability of government in the outlying areas. It is generally accepted that his reasons showed more thoughtful foresight than those of the previous king, Henry III, who had doubled the price of judgeships because he needed money to buy a gift.[10]

The power of the bourgeoisie had been fluctuating for some time, but each progressive step was longer than any retrogression.

Louis IX (1226-1270) had begun strengthening the local power of his administrators in the middle of the thirteenth century. He had bailiffs who were appointed magistrates of a province or precinct with broad powers, and he gave them authority even over the feudal lords.[11]

In 1302 Philippe le Bel (1285-1314) opened the Parlement at Toulouse. Both he and his successors wanted provincial judicial bodies, which could issue edicts, and municipal administrators. The men for these posts were mainly of the bourgeoisie which supported the king in his unending battle for power against the nobles and the clergy. Lawyers had assumed control of administration and of the judiciary, and by the time of Philippe V (1316-1322) their opinion and force was so appreciated that this king demanded in his own council of State the number of lawyers be at least equal to that of the titled councilors.[12]

Henry II (1547-1559) was responsible for creating a lower court in each bailliage (precinct) of which Sainte-Livrade was one. By the end of the sixteenth century,

there were nine provincial superior courts including the Parlements of Bordeaux and Toulouse.[13]

A new social class developed as a result of the provisions allowing judicial offices to be passed from father to son. Rising from the middle class, the justices and lawyers became la noblesse de robe.[14] Even though these men seldom were ennobled, continuity in office and the interrelationships that quickly developed through marriages created a unity of outlook and purpose that made these supporters of the king powerful leaders of the people.[15]

According to the tone of documents concerning the VEDRINES family and to the use of maître and de within the records, from the time of Jean Baptiste Lapaise's grandfather, Francois VEDRINES (1599?-1657), the family belonged to the upper bourgeoisie[16] and to the class still referred to in France as la noblesse de robe. In some cases, these bourgeosie who held judiciary positions were actually ennobled by concession of the King. In others, they remained bourgeois but had certain privileges similar to those enjoyed by persons of noble birth.[17]

Maître, spelled maistre in the early records, was a title like "Mister" but usually more respectful. Sometimes used with the name of a trade, it then followed a man's name and denoted a person that "hath (or should have) sufficient skill".[18] When used before a man's name in the records studied for this book, it referred to gens de robe, that is: counselors in Parlement, judges, advocates.

The title maistre was used for all of Jean Baptiste Lapaise's proven direct VEDRINES ancestors, as well as for most of the male relatives of the ladies they married.

In French, the particule nobiliaire is the particle de, indicating that the name, derived from property owned, is a title of nobility. Petit Larousse defines the particule as a preposition which precedes certain family names and which does not necessarily signify noble status. It can just as well refer to place of origin.

Since the predominant culture in l'Agenais was Occitan or Provençal, it is interesting to find that in the ancient language of Languedoc, the same particule "de" was given as a sign of respect to the gens de robe, the lawyers and judges, who were almost invariably from the upper bourgeoisie. Occasionally this use in conjunction with a family

name became stabilized in those families.[19]

Perhaps because of this, in Sainte-Livrade's early records concerning persons of the true nobility, rank was usually indicated with more than the particule by writing "Seigneur de" or "Sieur de", and, often, by the actual word "noble" preceding the name.[20]

Although neither Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES nor any of his direct ancestors ever used "de" in a signature, it often occurs with their name. Notaries and priests wrote "de Vedrines" in civil and parochial records in France, and in Louisiana until the middle of the nineteenth century. It is unlikely that the descendants of Francois VEDRINES were ever titled; the use of de with their name was simply a sign of the respect given to the gens de robe. One priest in Opelousas, Louisiana, Father Michel Bernard BARRIERE wrote that the "de VEDRINES" were "une famille noble" that he had known well in Bordeaux. He may have considered them noble: they were land-owners; one branch held a maison noble et fief at Barsac; some members of the family were military officers. Perhaps his being the son of a baker's employee or apprentice made them seem of even higher rank than they were.[21]

It is preferable to think that Father BARRIERE was referring to character, to their position as a family of distinction but, even more, to a group known by him to be "gentle, generous of humor, worthie, gallant" people.[22]

A summary of the paternal ancestry of the first VEDRINES to settle in Louisiana will serve as an orientation:

Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES, son of Jean VEDRINES and Marie RAYMOND
born: 17 May, baptized: 18 May 1712 at Sainte-Livrade, Dept. of Lot-et-Garonne, France
came to America about 1738-1742
died: 15 January, buried: 16 January 1788 at Opelousas, Louisiana
married: 10 October 1758 Sainte-Anne de Chartres Illinois, to:

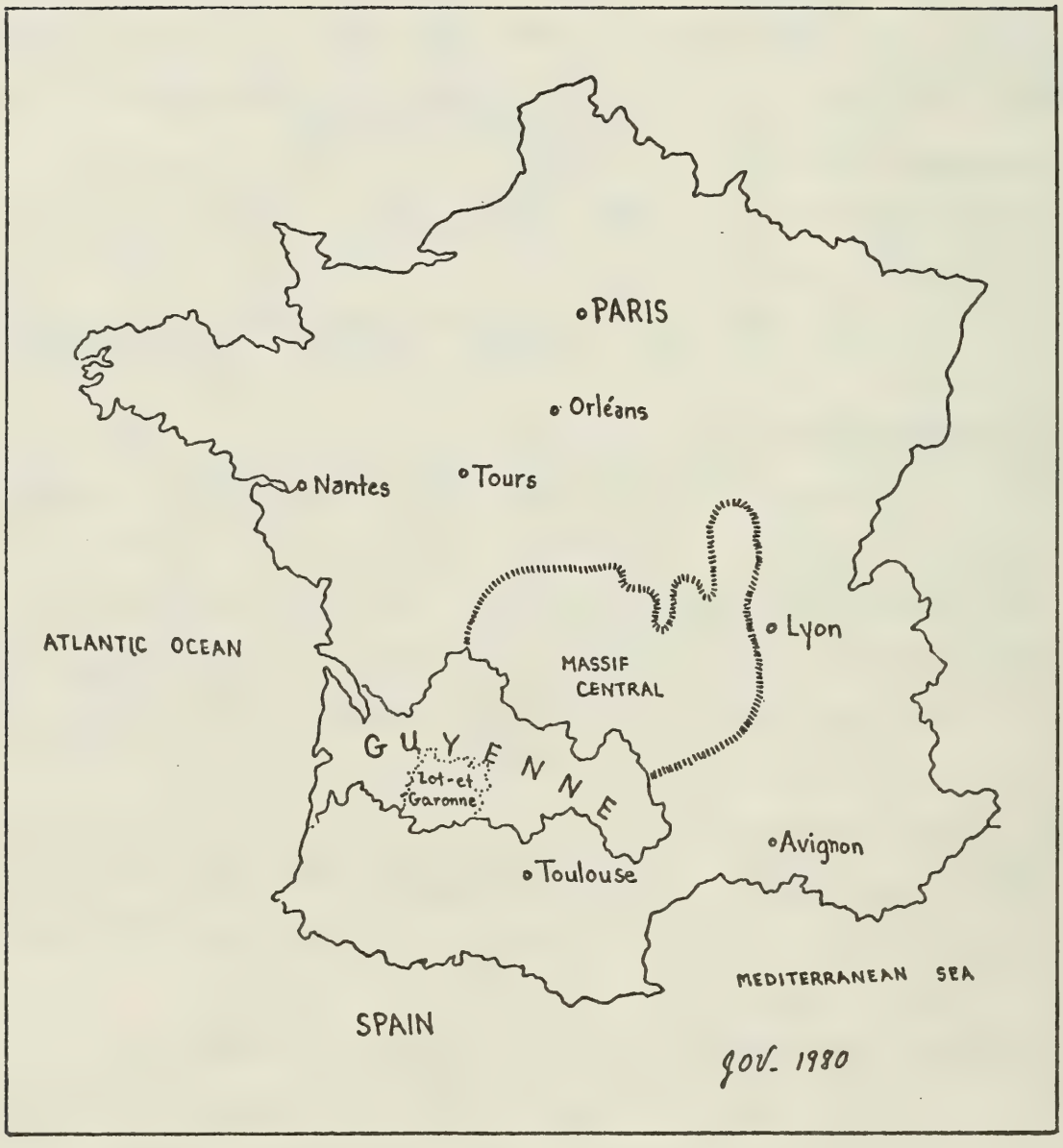
Elizabeth TISSERAND de Moncharvaux
born 1744, died 1816, daughter of Jean Francois TISSERAND de MONCHARVAUX and Agnes CHASSIN

His parents:
Jean (Baptiste) VEDRINES, advocate, son of Jean VEDRINES and Françoise GAUTIER
born: 1677-1678
died: between 1738 and 1750
married: 5 June 1704 Barsac, Dept. of Gironde, to Marie RAYMOND
born 1684 died ca. 1764 daughter of Paul de RAYMOND and Anne Beatrix GRATECHAPT

His Grandparents:
Jean (Baptiste) VEDRINES, advocate and judge, son of François VEDRINES and Marguerite ROCHE
born: between 1629-1737
died: between 6 April - 26 April 1706
married: 13 February 1659 at Sainte-Livrade to: Françoise GAUTIER
born, circa 1637, died 1722, perhaps sister of Jean Gérard GAUTIER, procurer of the King, of Monclar, judge ("danler____?" [of autrerive?])

His Great-Grandparents:
François VEDRINES, civil judge, probably son of Jehan VEDRINES and Anne SIMON
baptized: probably 1 August 1599 at Sainte-Livrade
died: 20 April 1657 "age about 60"
married: about 1625-1635 to:
Marguerite ROCHE, widow of Pierre REYRE
mother of Anthoine REYRE
born: 1601?, died 1668, daughter of Jehan ROCHE Pontous and probably Blaise de BERNARD

His probable Great-Great-Grandparents:
Jehan VEDRINES
married: before 1579 to:
Anne SIMON, possibly daughter of Jehan SIMON dit Julhiat



Map of France with approximate boundaries of the former province of Guyenne and the location of the department of Lot-et-Garonne. Adapted from Géographie de la France, Services Culturels de l'Ambassade de France and "Map of France", C. S. Hammond.

Chapter II

A Bit of Geography and History

The area where the VEDRINES lived, l'Agenais, was, during the time period covered by this study, of the Occitan culture. "Oc" means "yes" in Old Provençal, the language of early southern France. The nobles, aristocrats, Parlement, and the bourgeoisie were also able to speak French and the better educated were literate in Latin as well.[1]

The province called Guyenne, which includes L'Agenais, is a part of this "Bassin Aquitaine". Guyenne, a name derived from the ancient "l'Aguienne" of the thirteenth century and the even more ancient "Aquitania" of the Roman era, was an old French province of indefinite boundaries.[2] It can be considered the entire area from which were formed the departments of Gironde, Lot-et-Garonne, Aveyron, and Dordogne, and a part of Landes and Tarn-et-Garonne.[3] The territory was brought as dowry to Henry Plantagenet in 1152 when he married Eleanor of Aquitaine.[4] When he became King of England, in 1154, it became England's.

Long in dispute between the French and the English, it was conquered by the French in 1369 and lost again. Most of Guyenne was reconquered in 1444, including Agenais. The whole province of Guyenne was finally in French hands in 1453, after the last battle of the Hundred Years' War.[5]

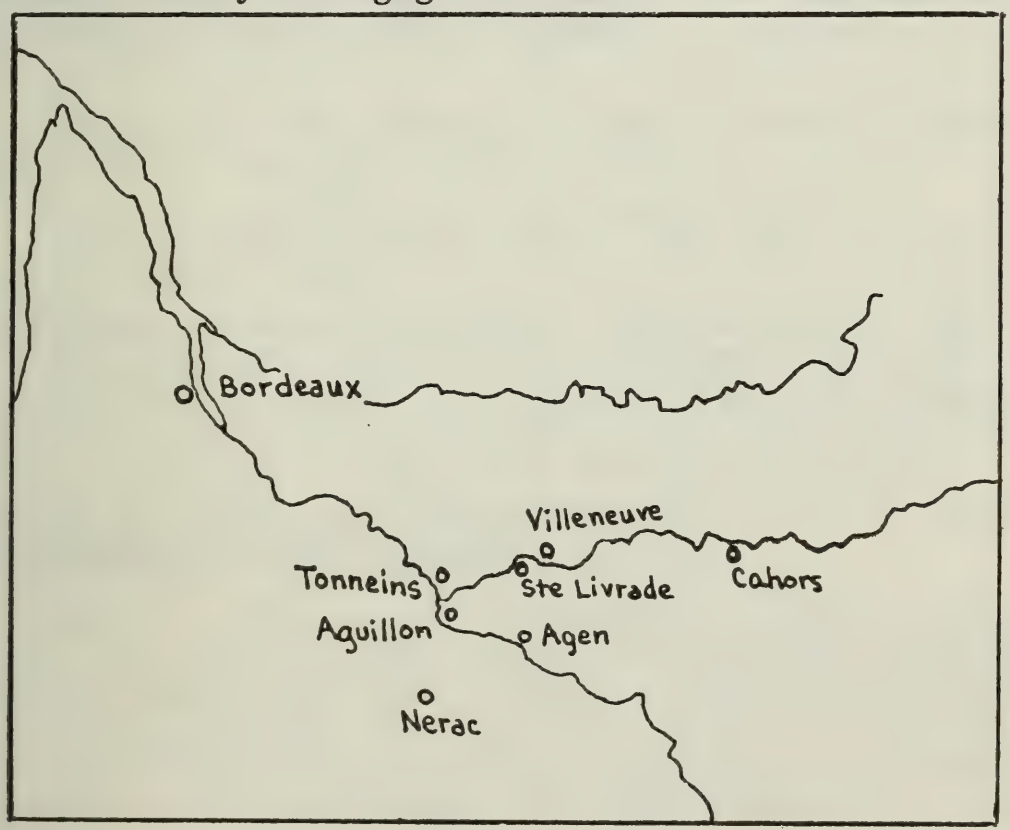
PERIGUEUX
PERIGORD
BORDEAUX
BORDELAIS
QUERCY
Garonne River
Monflanquin
Villeneuve
Lot River
CAHORS
AGENAIS
Sainte Livrade
AGEN
Garonne River
gov. 1980

L'Agenais

Agenais' capital city, Agen, was made a bishopric during the first years of the tenth century. The church that is now the cathedral, Saint-Caprais, was built during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.[6]

While Bordeaux was under English domination, Toulouse expanded in importance. The Garonne River was the route for the produce of Flanders, Normandy, and England, as well as for that of Guyenne and of Western France. This increased traffic and trade all along the Garonne and also along the river Lot which meets it in the central part of the department of Lot-et-Garonne, near the towns of Aiguillon and Tonneins.[7]

A thirteenth century crusade in France against one of the "heretical" sects left the Toulouse area devastated, its economy in ruins. Many people left to seek peace or prosperity; some of them migrated to Sainte-Livrade in the Agenais.[8] The most numerous contingent of emigrants were those of the 15th century from the Massif central.[9] That vast area of high lands in central France is poor in much of its area. It has always been a fountain head of emigration.[10] Sainte-Livrade, like other towns in Agenais, must have received some of the Spaniards who emigrated in the 16th century to engage in commerce and manufactures.[11]

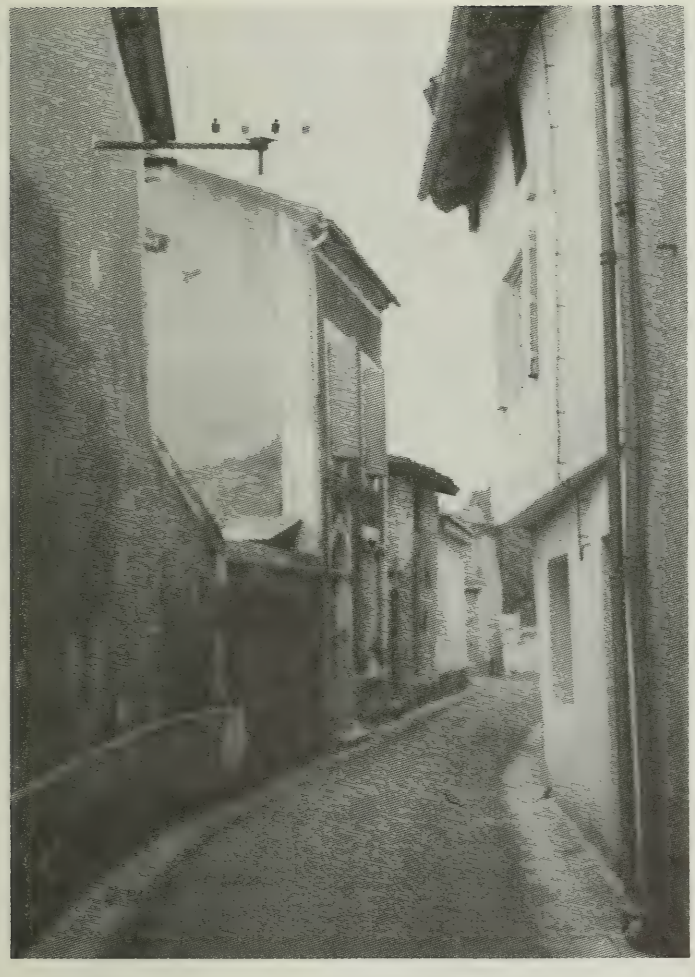


Sainte-Livrade on the River Lot

The Rivers Lot and Garonne

The Lot River flows from the Massif central to join the Garonne. The Garonne River originates in the Pyrenees and flows through the cities of Toulouse and Agen to Bordeaux and the Bay of Biscay.

Adapted from Géographie de la France, Services Culturels de l'Ambassade de France.



The oldest streets of Sainte-Livrade are very narrow. The buildings follow the curves of these roads.

Obviously the story of Sainte-Livrade d'Agenais begins earlier than its existing records.[12]

Sainte-Livrade, a town having just over 6,000 inhabitants in 1972, is located on the left bank of the Lot River.[13] A pleasant place in the green and fertile valley of the Lot, it is the chef-lieu (principal city) of the canton. Centrally located in the department of Lot-et-Garonne, it is a natural market for agricultural produce such as sweet peas, green beans, tomatoes, celery, and its famous prunes. The college of agriculture there, Le Lycée Agricole, helps to continue the long tradition of farming.[14]

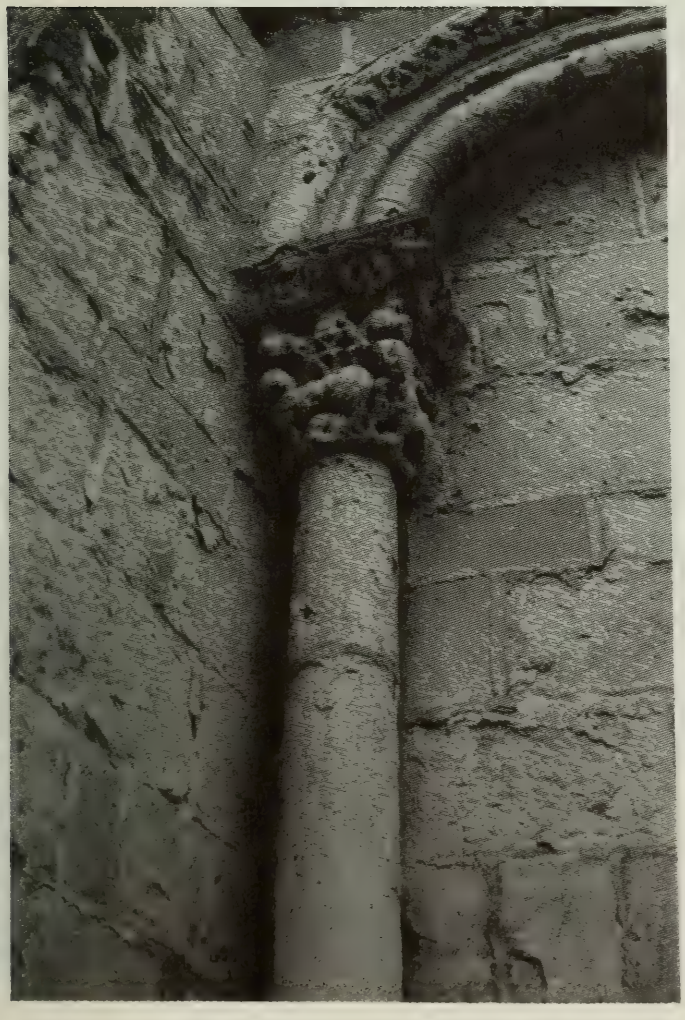
The Lot flows to Sainte-Livrade, through well-kept farms and orchards that include those at the place called Lapèze, meandering from Villeneuve (the principal city of that arrondisement), only ten kilometers to the east by the highway route. Agen, the préfecture (governmental capital) of the department of Lot-et-Garonne, is thirty kilometers south.

There is a curious map that was made during the fourteenth century that shows the locations of Montpezat and of Sainte-Livrade, with a drawing of their fortified walls.[15] A list made by the English between 1363 and 1370 counts Sainte-Livrade as one of the fifty bailliages (judicial precincts) of Agen, the siège (seat, center) of an ancient sénéchausée (area of governmental jurisdiction).[16]

The church at Sainte-Livrade dates from the twelfth and fourteenth centuries. The apse is the oldest part and possibly predates the English occupation of Aquitaine (1152).[17]

The church of Sainte-Livrade

The Apse



Sainte Livrade Church

Each column's capital has different carved figures.

Entrance to the chapel on the left of the main door.

According to the pastor (1972), the chapel dates from the time of English Domination in the XII century.

Madonna carved in wood, in that chapel.

Someone had tucked a fresh flower between the Mother and Child.

The town is named for Sainte-Livrade, a virgin martyr honored especially in Sainte-Livrade. She was recognized as a saint by the eleventh century in the parish which bears her name and where she suffered martyrdom. Her feast day is on January 26.[18]

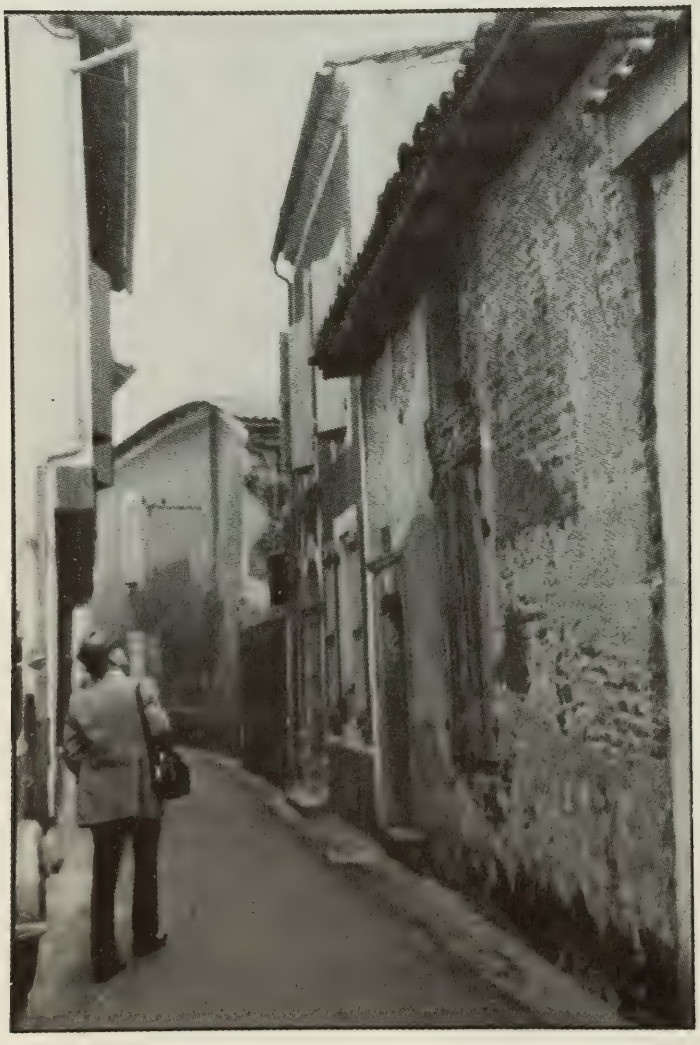
On the twentieth of August 1666, the bishop of Agen was in Sainte-Livrade for the ceremony of transferring a relic of the patroness saint of the town. The relic, a rib bone, had come from the abbey of Grand-Selves.[19]

The alcove, where her statue stands above the altar, is the most ancient part of the church. The altar below the statue is of marble, of eighteenth century workmanship.

The wood furnishings were carved during the same period.

Because the church of Sainte-Livrade was the parish for Lapèze and the other lieux-dits near the town, its archives hold the records for the people who are involved in this study. The town of Sainte-Livrade was the commercial and judicial center for the area around it, and prosperous owners of rural lands had homes within the town. It is known that Francois VEDRINES and Marguerite ROCHE had a residence there in 1651, and all discovered records of baptisms, marriages, and funerals of this couple and their descendants who remained in l'Agenais are found in the registers of that church parish. It is there Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES was baptized in 1712.

The ancient construction of the church alone shows that, 400 years earlier than its extant records, Sainte-Livrade was a viable city. Many interesting examples of early construction still bear witness to its continuity. The streets where the Védrines walked are still there.

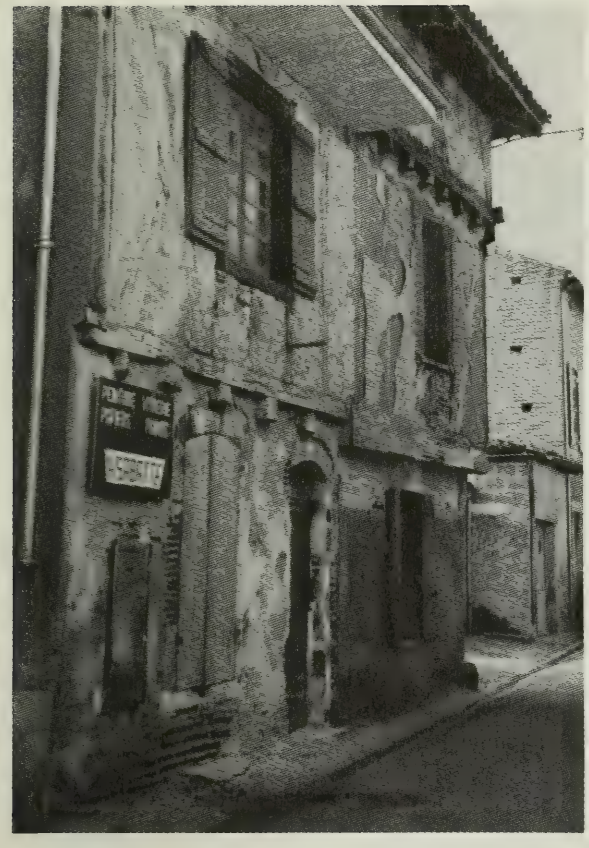


On those narrow streets one can see several very old houses, some briqueté-entre-poteaux, some of brick, some plastered long ago, some plastered recently.[20]

The protrusion that protects the corner of this brick building has served it well.

On the street named Tranquility, there are fine examples of briquete-entre-poteaux construction.

On the table near the door, preparations for lunch await the return of the femme de la maison.



The shop of H. Sabatte has paper and paint for sale.

This home has been recently plastered and painted. Note the cantilevered second story overhanging the threshold.

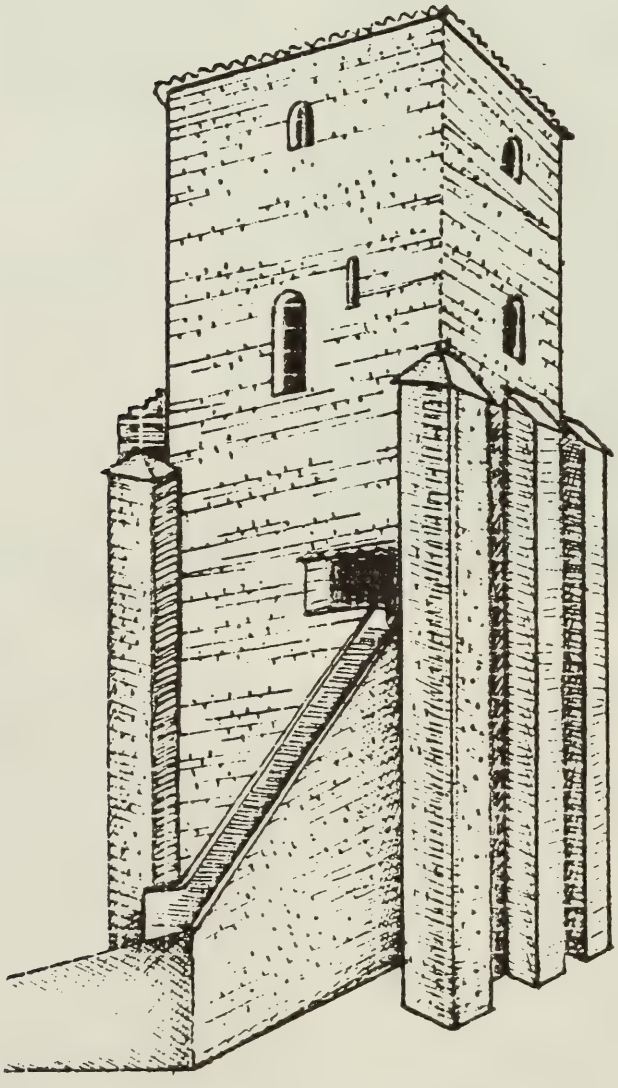
This home was wisely designed for a corner where two narrow streets meet.

The house here has the usual protective obstruction at its corner.

Some say that this building was originally the Chapel of Saint-Jean, and that the back part is now used for religious services of L'Eglise Reformée de France and other Protestant denominations.

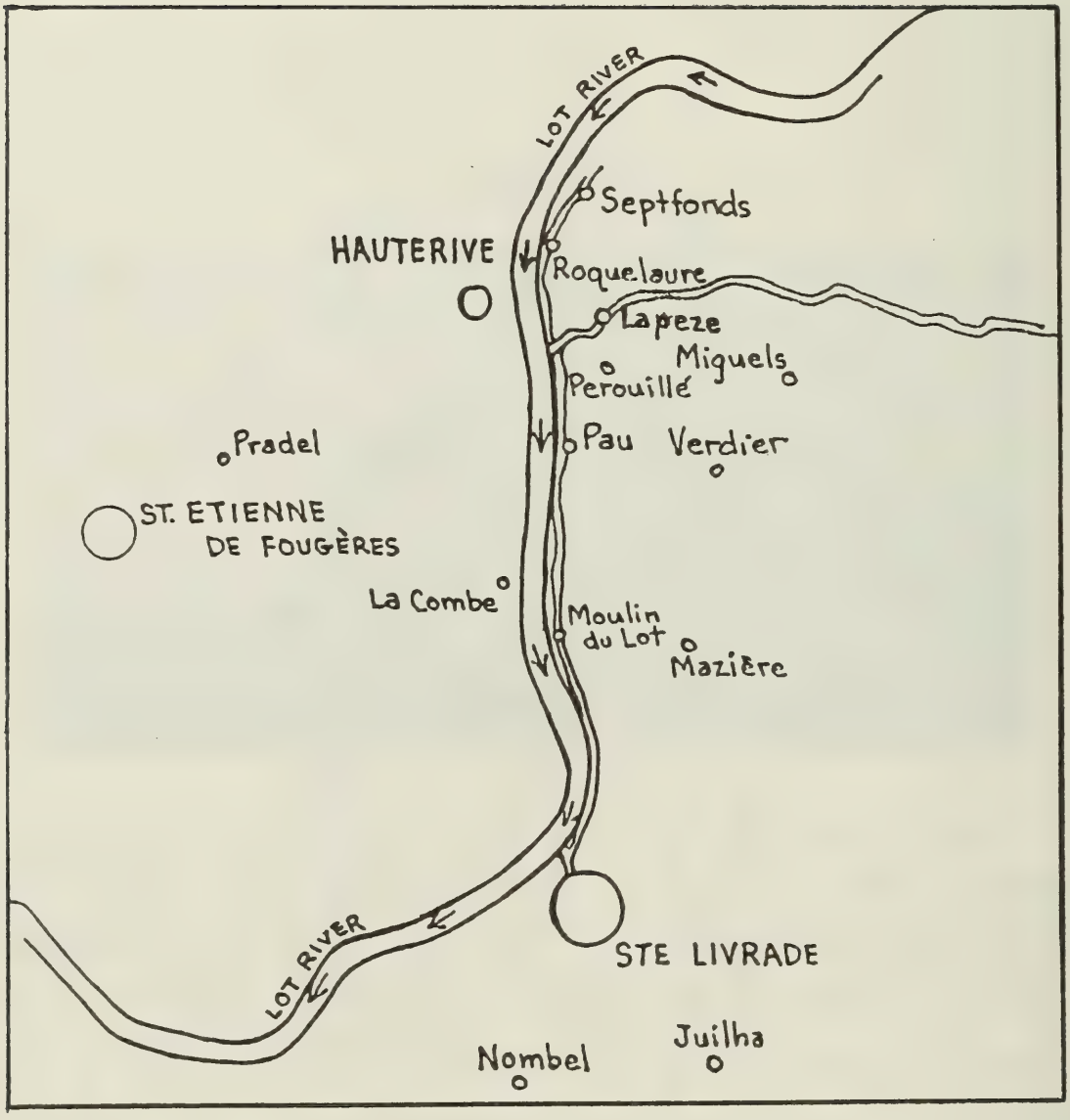
The door, lower right corner, opens inward. The road has been resurfaced several times, so one must step down to enter.

A part of the wall that once surrounded the town still stands alongside the one remaining tower, called la tour du Roi. Both were built of brick, probably during the fourteenth century.[21]



The tower is, of course, more time-worn than it appears in this drawing.

Many small sections of property outside of Sainte-Livrade have their own names. In France, these are called lieux-dits. Monclar was the name of an old lieu-dit about 1.5 kilometers from the town of Sainte-Livrade; Nombel is a lieu-dit just south of the town. Others, above the town, are Roquelaure, Lamothe, Miguels, Pau, Peyroulie, Septfonds, and Lapèze.[22] This last is the lieu-dit which gave its name to Jean Baptiste Lapaize VEDRINES, the first VEDRINES/VIDRINE in America.



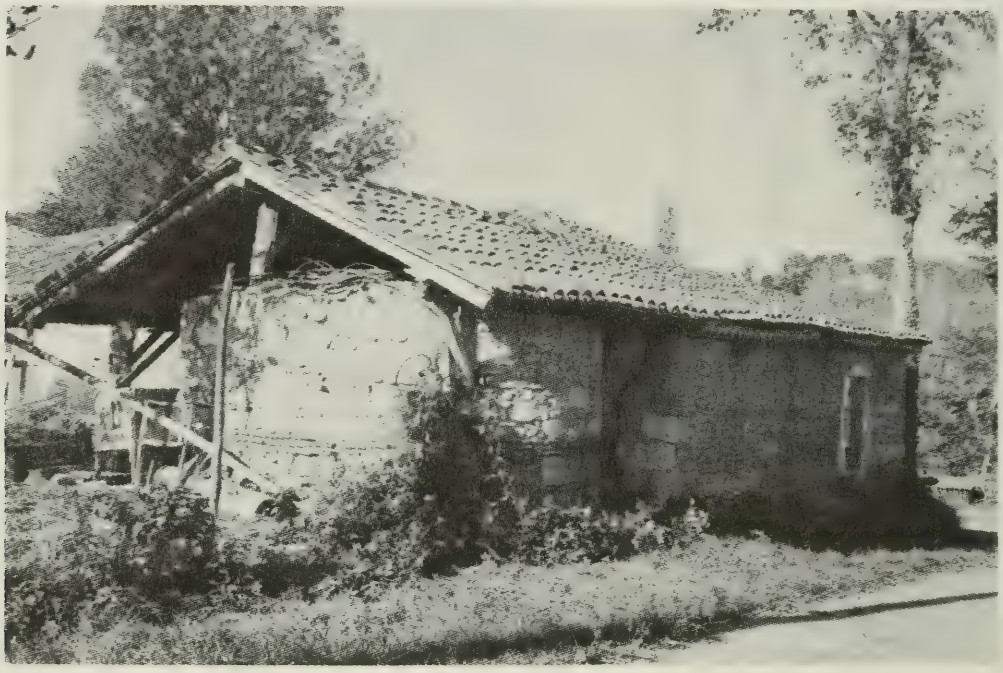
Some of the lieux-dits near Sainte-Livrade

Adapted from "Villeneuve-sur-Lot", Institut Géographique National; maps in the office of the mayor of Sainte-Livrade.

A lane near the river Lot
leading to Lapeze

The lands nearest the river are the most fertile, and the gentle climate permits the whole stretch of arable land to be used for fruit orchards and market gardens. The farms are still essentially family enterprises, and the parents and children share the labor. The vegetable crops are important, and the fruit trees even more so. Plums, peaches, apples, pears, and cherries are produced in abundance. The famous prunes of Agenais are from a fresh plum grown on a grafted tree called "prunier d'ente" whose origin goes back to the time of the Crusades. The hybrid has been grown and its fruit dried into prunes since the sixteenth century. Two hundred years later, the production and sale of prunes had so grown that it had to be regulated.[23]

The fruit is picked when ripe, then dried either in a special oven or kiln, or l'étuve (drying cabinet) which leaves it with a fine color and delicate scent.[24]



This barn near the Lot is on a road that goes to Lapèze and Miguels. The round stone part was specially made for drying the prunes.

Farmers spoke of brick-making in the area in ancient times. The clay was dug from a pit not far from the barn at Roquelaure, which is across the road from the Lot and not far from a spring whose flow had been five or so inches in diameter. It is now a trickle.

The spring has its source in the Pyrénées. Its course is entirely below surface until it appears between Septfonds and Lapeze. At one time there was a mill, the water-wheel powered by the flow.[25] The brick construction around the mouth of the spring and the base of the support-structure for the wheel are all that remains.

Along the river near the spring is a narrow pathway with a little bridge across the spring's flow. The path was used by horses pulling barges, especially north and east against the current of the Lot River.[26]

The open rectangle in the brick wall is where the spring emerges.
The paddle-wheel supports and rod are below.

The river there is where the VEDRINES fished. It continues its course untiringly to the Garonne, between the poplars. Even in October the river is hidden by their leaves but in the winter they are bare.[27]

At one time, the lieu-dit Lapèze was a sizable settlement having several homes, barns, and outbuildings. The land was very good, and cultivated fields and orchards stretched across it when the whole area was expropriated by the French government to establish a gun-powder factory, about 1938. The landowners forced out were remembered as these three: old NICOMEDE, ROUDIER, and old CARRERE. The area up to the lieu-dit PAU was cleared by destroying every building, and it is said that some exceedingly ancient ones had stood until then. Buildings were being erected when the project was abandoned, and the factory structures were never completed.[28]

A few of the cement-block buildings have been converted into homes or barns; the rest stand unfinished, a discordant sight in a peaceful landscape.

The road along the Lot follows an ancient pathway. Some of the old barns and a few of the houses along the road on the edges of Lapèze were left standing but the one old house seen in 1972 is only about 100 to 150 years old - perhaps being rebuilt completely, or thoroughly renovated. Two old pigeonnières look much older than the homes near them and the barns, nearer the river, seem far older than either. The one at Roquelaure is probably the oldest.[29]

A barn near the Lot River, between Peyroulie and Roquelaure.

At Septfonds, the barn on the Carmeille farm. Both barns make use of trees and their natural branching for upright supports and bracing.

Pigeons were a privilege allowed to certain people only. Just two pigeonnières were seen in the farming area above Sainte-Livrade. This one is near the boundary between western Roquelaure and northern Lapèze.[30]

Lapèze is remembered by the older residents as an old and prosperous area of relatively large farms. The name will continue for at least a few more generations since a few young couples have moved there, and some are even building new homes near it. But the VEDRINES family has been forgotten.

Chapter III

Memories and Records

Place names can endure, and their names are apt to remain although inhabitants move away and new settlers take their place. Family names can disappear from a locality where they had been familiar for many generations. That is what happened to the name VEDRINES in the areas of Lapèze and Sainte-Livrade.

No one remembers the VEDRINES in Lapèze, and the fact that the name was a part of Sainte-Livrade's past has been completely forgotten. Interviews and informal questions in October of 1972 and September of 1979 revealed that the name VEDRINES had been entirely erased from memory in Sainte-Livrade and in the lieux-dits nearby. The notary of the town found no mention of the name in his records back to 1872,[1] and the mayor, M. Charles de Cacqueray, and Mme Verdier, his secretary, looked fruitlessly through their records. The only trace of the name found in the municipal office is in an old Cadastre, a register of lands and owners, made in 1660.[2] It is only the archives deposited in Agen that make it possible to study the early families of the town.

The name VEDRINES appears in the archives of several communes in the department Lot-et-Garonne. It was only with the expert guidance that the search was narrowed to just a few parishes in the diocese of Agen. In 1963, M. Burias, the director of the Archives of Lot-et-Garonne, informed me that the name VEDRINES appears in the archives of several communes in l'Agenais: Monclar, Monflanquin, Puymirol, and those nearby. One negative

statement had positive results later: "In regard to the surnom La Friele (La Frerle is impossible), it is unknown in our region".[3] That called for more study, and some time later it was found that that strange name "La Friele" or "La Frerle" on the marriage record of Jean Baptiste VEDRINES was "Lapeize".

Before the year's end, M. Burias sent the results of research done by Mlle Bourrachot, documentaliste - archiviste, and it was then that Sainte-Livrade was pin-pointed for our VEDRINES. When the 1707 baptism of Pierre VEDRINES was discovered there, it seemed that at last the birth of our Louisiana ancestor had been found! This may be regarded as a strange conclusion now, when so much more is known, but it was a reasonable assumption at that time: Jean Baptiste "Lapeize" VEDRINES married in America; Jean, Jean Pierre, and Pierre are forms of his name seen in church and civil records. Even his will is titled "Pierre De Vidrine" and in it his "patron, Saint Pierre" is mentioned. He signs only "vedrine".[4]

By 1964, it was known from baptismal records that Pierre had the brother Jean Baptiste Lapaise and a funeral record sent by the conservateur en Chef, Archives départementales de la Gironde, established that Pierre had died in France, at Barsac.[5]

Oddly enough, this discovery was made possible by a letter in 1961 from the Service Historique, Ministère des Armées. That office could find nothing on the requested "Pierre Jean Baptiste La Frerle de Vedrine" of l'Agenais. In consolation, they sent the "Relevé des Services" of four other VEDRINES - just because they were VEDRINES. One of these was for Jean Baptiste de VEDRINES, born at Preignac, jurisdiction of Barsac, généralité of Bordeaux.[6]

Numerous letters, several years of research and the help of many people were necessary before it was certain that the American ancestor, Lapaise VEDRINES, had left the place called Lapèze and the area of Sainte-Livrade, on a voyage of no return. It is the church and civil records of Sainte-Livrade that are the ones of interest to the descendants of Jean Baptiste Lapaise who came to America before 1743, and settled with wife and children in Louisiana in 1764.

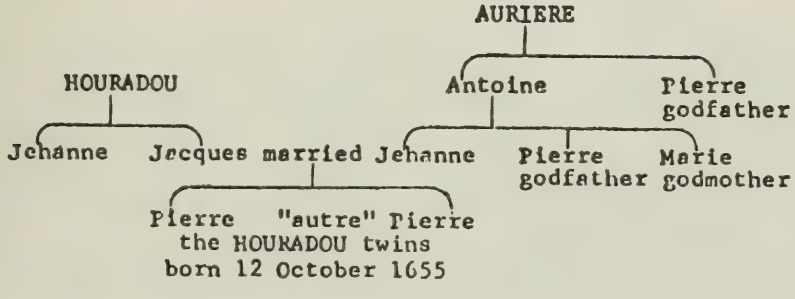
A marriage record in early church registers does not necessarily establish with certainty the identity of the

parties. The act usually does not give the age nor the date of birth of the bride and groom. It is not often that their parents' names are given, and even when they are, the possibility remains of confusion between two brothers or two sisters who have the same name, a not infrequent occurrence.[7]

The funeral records can be even more laconic. On 15 April 1634 was the burial in the Sainte-Livrade cemetery of Jehan Roche dit Bourran, age 70 ("septante") years. There is no mention of marital status.[8] Many of the records give even less, not infrequently a name with date of burial only. And even when the age at death is recorded, it is very unreliable. The Marguerite ROCHE who died on 30 May 1668 at the age of 74 years would have been born in 1594. Almost certainly she had been the child baptized in 1601,[9] and baptisms usually occurred in infancy. Baptismal acts often do not give the date of birth but, if there is an unusual length of time between birth and sacramental baptism, the year of birth is usually recorded. Sometimes the family connection of a godparent to the child is given, and - again, only sometimes - the godmother's husband's name is noted.

As an example of the possibilities for confusion, the melange of four Pierres in one baptismal record is noted: the baptism of twin brothers on the seventh of November, 1655.[10] These two sons of Jacques HOURADOU and Jehanne AURIERE are both given the name Pierre, one named for his godfather Pierre AURIERE (brother of Jehanne and young son of Antoine AURIERE) and the other Pierre (" autre Pierre ") named for his godfather Pierre AURIERE, the oldest brother of Antoine and so uncle of the other twin's godfather as well as great-uncle of the twins!

The godmothers of the twin Pierres are Jehanne HOURADOU, sister of their father Jacques, and Marie AURIERE, sister of their mother.



It is obvious that confirming data is not always possible, so there are numerous occasions for "probably" and its synonyms. There are other problems of integrating the material discovered into a cohesive, sufficiently complete, and fully documented history of a family. Another difficulty in research are the records themselves. Documents written over two hundred years ago are not only difficult to locate, but fragile when found. It is often an extremely laborious task to decipher some of them. That is why photostats, transcripts, extracts, and translations with exact citations are invaluable to a serious researcher in history or genealogy.

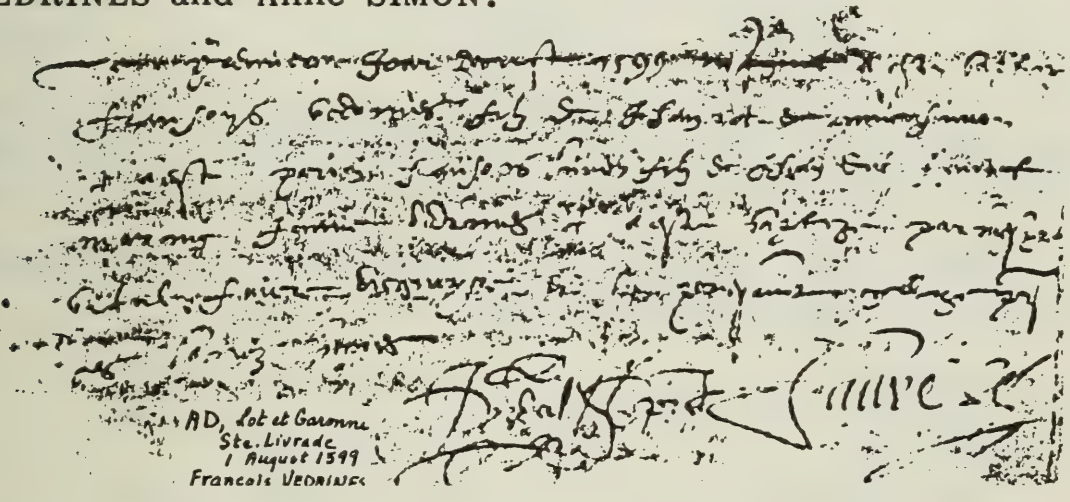
The church registers for Sainte-Livrade at the Departmental Archives in Agen are marvelous sources of family data, even with the voids natural in such collections. The notarial records are extensive, but also incomplete. It is important - and would be true even if each series had no gaps - to remember that records rarely give all of the information desired.

One of the baptismal registers of Sainte-Livrade dates back to December, 1578. It is a pity there are no marriage records earlier than 1612. Considering this, along with the other difficulties discussed, the amount of family data that was found is considerable.

Chapter IV

François Védrines and Marguerite Roche

François VEDRINES is very probably the child baptized at the Sainte-Livrade church 1 August 1599, son of Jehan VEDRINES and Anne SIMON.[1]



Le premier Jour d aoust 1599 a este baptise
fransoys vedrines fils de Jehan et d anne Simon
a este parin fransois Simon fils de Jehan dit f....t
marine Jeanne vedrines -- a este baptize par m. p.
vital. faure vicaire de la presant (egllize p-- ?)
Les Soubs prant
Vidal pr- faure --

In the very earliest extant register (1578-1583) of the church of Sainte-Livrade,[2] some other VEDRINES' baptisms are recorded. The first mention, dated 10 August 1579, is Antoine, son of Jehan VEDRINES and Anne SIMON. A daughter of this couple, Mondeth (Mondine) was baptized 31 August 1581. Because the register shows several different VEDRINES couples of childbearing age, it can be

assumed that the VEDRINES family had been residents of Sainte-Livrade or its environs at least one generation earlier. There are indications that most of these VEDRINES were related, and it is very probable that all of them were.[3] They are:

(1) Jehan VEDRINES, husband of Anne SIMON who was godmother of a son of (2).
(2) Mathelin VEDRINES, husband of Astrugue DALCHIE.
(3) Antoine VEDRINES, husband of Antonie PEYRAT.
(4) Jehan VEDRINES, husband of Hélène BOSGNET [EASGUET?].
(5) Gerault or Giraud VEDRINES, godfather of a son of (2); present in 1581 at a SIMON-DELPUY baptism.
(6) Pierre VEDRINES, merchant, husband of Janne JACOUBET; probably godfather of a JACOUBET-ROCHE child (1582), and a LAFAYE [LAFAGE?]-ROCHE child (1580).

The name Jehan VEDRINES appears as godfather on the baptism of one Antoine VEDRINES' daughter in 1580, but no further identification is made of father or godfather.

With such difficulties in mind, here are the known children of Jehan VEDRINES and Anne SIMON:[4]

Antoine	bt. 10 August 1579
Mondeth (Mondine)	bt. 13 October 1581
Geraude	bt. May 1595
François	bt. 1 August 1599 d. 20 April 1657 married circa 1625-1635 Marguerite ROCHE

It must be observed that Jehan and Anne's son François is not proven to be the Francois who married Marguerite ROCHE.

In the 1630's our François VEDRINES married Marguerite ROCHE, a widow. They might have married in another town, but he was well established in Sainte-Livrade by 1638. François VEDRINES had been a royal judge of Sainte-Livrade since at least that year,[5] having been appointed during the reign of Louis XIII, son of Henry IV.

RECOMMENDATION AND APPOINTMENT OF FRANÇOIS VEDRINES AS ROYAL JUDGE OF LA CENNE

Reception pour Mtre françois Vedrines
Juge de la Cenne

Marie de Vuignerod duchesse daguillon paire de france Contesse par Engagemant dagennois et Condomois Et tous ceux quy Les presantes Lettres verront Salut ayant a cause de l angagemant a nous faict par Sa Majeste desdictz comptés dagennois et condomois, pouvoir de nommer et presanter aux benefices et offices des Juges Royaux desds contes et leurs deppendances quand Vaccation y echoit par mort Resignation forfaicture ou autremant Estant bien Informé des Sens Suffisance et experiance bonne vie moeurs conversation Et Religion catholique appostilique et Romaine de La personne de maistre françois Vedrines Juge de Saincte Livrade Nous lavons nommé et presanté a a sa majeste

pour Estre pourvu de lestat et office de Juge Royal de la cenne en agennois Vaccant apresant par La mort de mtr Jean moret dernier pocesseur dicelluy pour Le dict office avoir tenir Et Exercer et Jouir Et Uzer par Le dict Mtr francois Vedrines aux honneur, authorities, perogatives permission, franchises, libertes, gages, droictz, fruictz proffitz Revenues et Esmolumens y apartenans et tous ainsy quen a Jouy ou deut Jouir Le dict maistre Jean mouret Supliant tres humblemant Sa Maieste d accorder a ceste notre nomination Les Lettres de provision dudt Estat et office aci necessaire a ceste office de bouter tous autres Illicits detempteurs dicelluy nayant Sur nos lettres de nomination

En temoing de quoy nous avons signe ceci presantes de nostre main faict contresigner par nostre secretaire ordinaire et a Icellui faict appozer le Seau de nos aieues a paris Le quartorziesme Jour daoust mil six cens quarante trois, Signe marie de Vuignerod, plus bas par susdit dame desmarestz

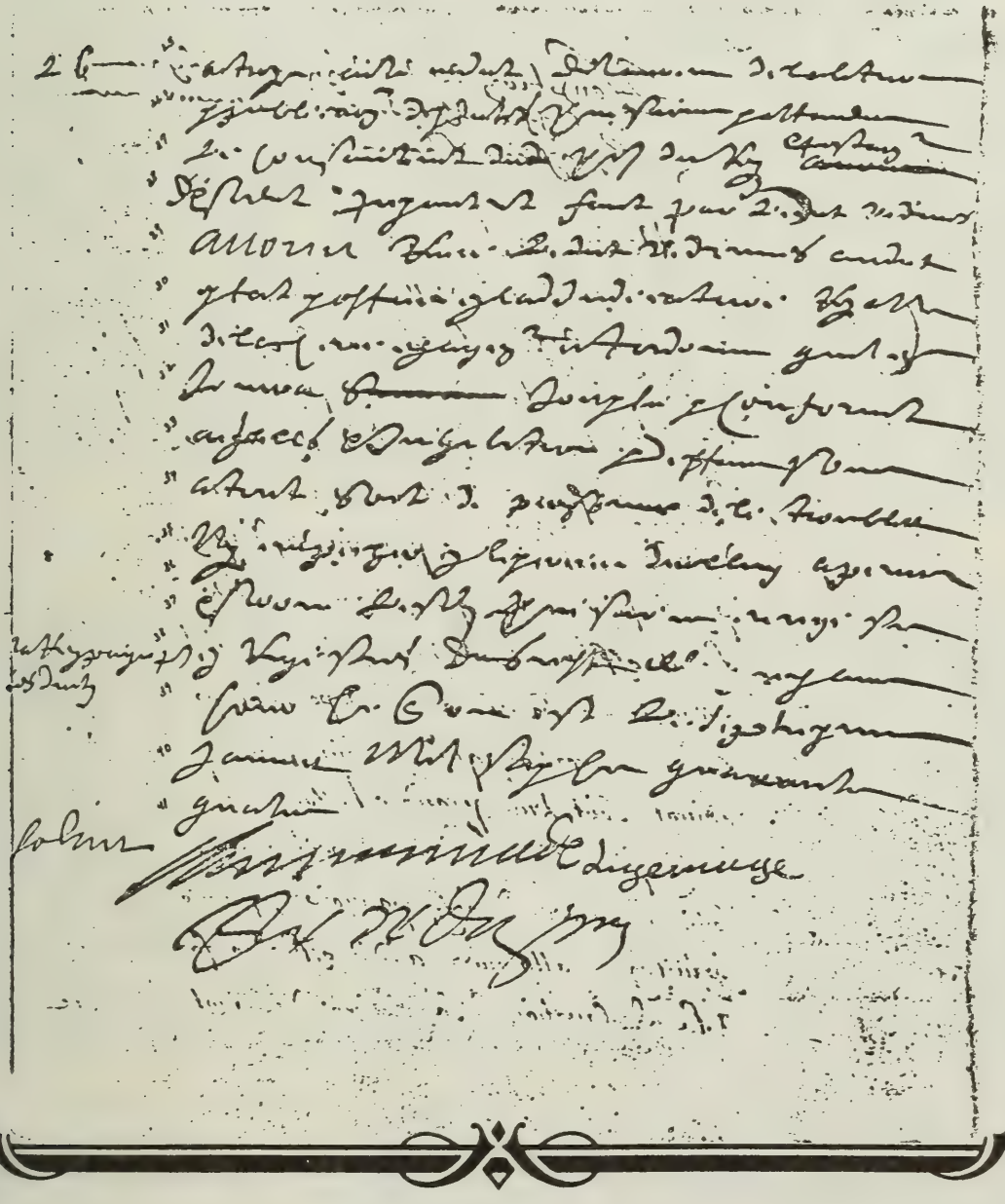
Je receu de M^{e} francois Vedrines Juge Royal de lacenne en agennois la Somme de Cinquante Livres a laquelle il aist taxe au conseil du Roy pour Estre descharge du prest et advance quil Est tenu de payer Suivant la declaration du Sixiesme octobre mil Six cens trante huict pour avoir La faculté d'eviter au droict anuel durant Les neuf annees portais par La dicte declaration commanca [n]t au premieur Janvier mil six cens trante neuf et finissant au dernier decembre mil six cens quarante Sept et dudict droict ann(ue)l desdites annees mil six cens trante neuf et mil six cens quarante avec faculté a luy et Ces Succasseurs au dict officier, de payer le dict droict ann(ue)l Seulement, et en y faisant Jouir de la

dispense des quarante Joures de Soudict office, Sans quil puisse estre declare vacant et Impozable pandant Le dict temps, ainsi Sera conserve a Sesdites Vefue, heritiers et ayant cause en payant Sulemant Le huictiesme denier de Levaluation dicelluy pour Le droict de Resignation et pour Jouir aussy de daugmantation de gages outre Les Enciens gages dont Il Jouye apresant faisant partie de Six cens mil livres de gages atribués aux officiers de Judicature, de finances et autres de ce Royaume par edict du mois de decembre mil six cens trante cinq et de la descharge de la taxe quy aist ou pourroiçt Estre faicte Sur luy pour L acquisition de sa part des Six cens mil Livres de Rente ordonnez estre distribuer aux aidez de villes et Gros bourgs de ce Royaume par arrest dudict conseil du vingt deuxiesme Janvier mil six cens trante neuf Conformemant a la declaration de sa maieste du troiziesme Juilliet dernier et arrest dudict conseil du Cinquiesme dudict mois faict a paris Le vingt deuxiesme Jour d octobre mil six Cens quarante trois y quittance du commis a l escriture de Tresorie des parties casuelles au lieu de defunct Mtr Mathieu Carmie de flandres au dos Enregistre au Controlle general des finances par moy conseillieur du Roy garde des Registres et Secretaire dudict Controlle Soubz Signe a paris Le Vingt deuxiesme Jour d octobre mil six cens quarante trois Signe de ––illy

Je Receu de m^{e} francois Vedrines la Somme de quarante deux luivres pour Le droict de Marc d'or de L office de Juge Royal de la Cenne en agennois donc il aist pourvu par La mort de M^{te} Jean Mouret faict a paris Le dix Septiesme Jour d octobre mil six cens quarante trois Signé boulli et au doz Enregistre au Commissaire general des finances par moy Conseillier du Roy en Ses conseils et Commissaire general des finances Soubz Signe a paris Le dernier octobre mil six cens quarante trois Signé partialle, Collationne a l original par moy Conseiller Secretaire du Roy et de Ses finances Signe Louis,

Louys par La grace de dieu Roy de france Et de Navarre a tous ceux quy ces presantes Lettres verront Salut Scavoir faisons que pour Le bon et Louable Rapport qui Nous aist faict de La personne de francois Vedrines et de Ses Senes Suffisance Loyaute prudhomie experiance et bonne diligence a Icelluy pour ces Causes et autres – – – – – nous nommons et avons a La nomination de Notre tres chere cousine La duchesse d aguillon contesse par Engagemant d agennois et Condomois ayant pouvoir de Ce Cy attache Soubz le contresel de notre chancelerie donne et octroyé donnons et octroyons par ces presants Lestat et office de Juge Royal de La Cenne en agennois vaquant par la mort de maistre Jean mourit dernier paisible pocesseur dicelluy pour lavoir tenir et dorenavant exercer et Jouir et User aux honneurs auctorités perogatives permissions franchises libertes droictz proffictz Revenues et Esmolumants accoustumes Telz Et Semblables que Le dict mouret Sy donnons En mandemant au Senechal d agennois ou Son Lieutenant au Siege d agen quapres quil Luy Sera approuvé des bonne vie moeurs conv(e)rsa(ti)on Et Religion Catholique ap(osto)lique et Romaine dudict Vedrines et de Luy pris et Receu Le Seremant en tel cas Requis et accoustume Il Le mettre et Institue de par nous en pocession dudict office Ensemble des d^{s} honnereurs aucth(orit)ez, perogatives permissions franchises Libert(e)s gaiges droictz proffictz revenues Et Esmoluments Accoustumez Le faict Jouir et User plainement Et paisiblemant et aluy obeyr Et Entendre de Tous Ceux et Ainsy quil apartiendra ces choses convenant Le dict office pourveu qui celluy Vedrines naie au Siege dudict la cenne au temps par ans officiers ou degré de L ordonnance apaine de Nullitti des presantes et de Sa Reception Car Tel est notre plaisir En tesmoing de quoy nous avons faict mettre n(ot)re Scel a ces presantes donne a paris Le sixieme Jour de Novembre Lan de grace mil six Cens quarante trois et de n(ot)re Regne Le premier Et sur le Reply par le Roy Louys Sellée et contresellée de ———— –aulne

The last three pages of the document are written in a different hand and they could not be deciphered sufficiently for presentation in transcription. Phrases that could be understood indicate that they record an attestation of François Vedrines' oath of office. At the end, the date, seventh of January, 1644, precedes signatures.

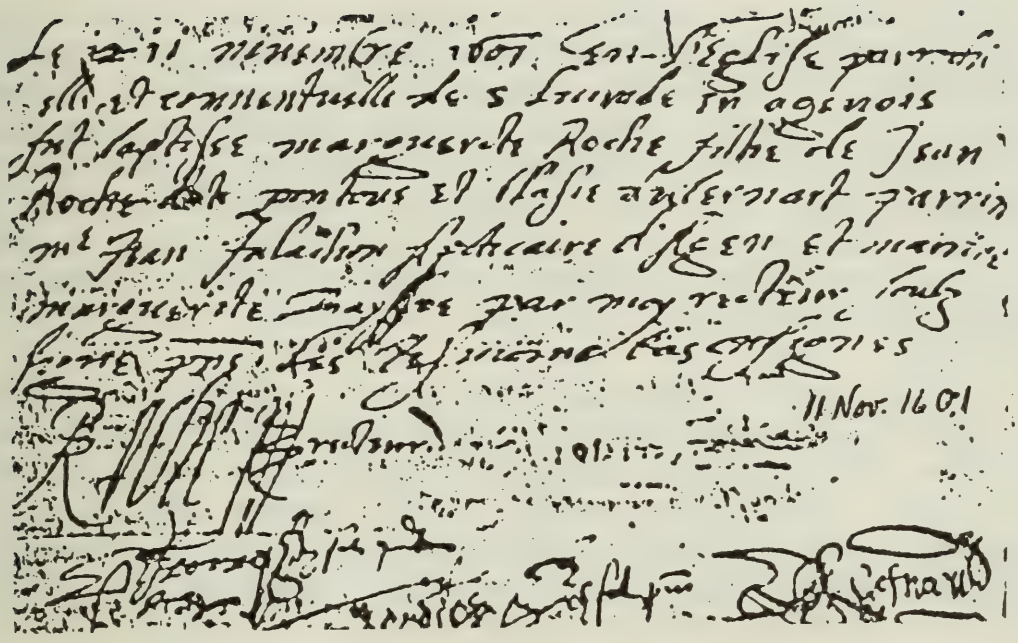


Double offices must have been acceptable for, when the position of judge at another town in l'Agenais was declared vacant, François VEDRINES was recommended for the judgeship.[6] Maître Jean MORIT or MOURET had been the judge. Obviously he had no heirs, for the office was left vacant by his death.

Marie Madeleine de VIGNEROD de COMBALET, duchess of Aiguillon and Countess of L'Agenais and Condomois [7] had the right to nominate for vacant offices in Agenais and in Condomois. She sent word to the King that Francois VEDRINES, judge of Sainte-Livrade, should be confirmed to replace MOURIT at LaCenne. She assured the King that she had made enquiries and had been well informed that he was a man of intelligence, judgement and experience, of good habits and morals, knowledgeable in speech and social graces, and that he was of the Roman Catholic faith. She signed the recommendation 14 August 1643. Her secretary, Dame Desmarests, signed her name below. The Countess then had the letter sealed with the seal of her ancestors.

Louis XIV, the boy King, gave François the royal appointment because of the recommendations vouching for VEDRINES as loyal, prudent, experienced, and diligent. His term of office would begin that Autumn of 1643. He and his successors could continue in office as long as it existed, and its existence was guaranteed at least until the end of 1647. The new judge of LaCenne paid fifty livres to the Controller-general of Finance as the fee or "tax" for acquisition of this office. The same price would be due annually, and the right to the office was extended to his heirs. It is not known how long the office in LaCenne continued, but François VEDRINES did remain as civil judge in Sainte-Livrade until his death.

François died 20 April 1657 and was buried the next day in the Church of Sainte-Livrade, in front of the Chapel of Saint-Jean.[8] On the funeral record his age is given as "about sixty years".[9] There are indications in other records that Marguerite ROCHE was widowed about that time.[10]



Le 11 novembre 1601 en l'Eglise parroche
elle et conventuelle de s Livrade en acgnois
fut baptisee marguerite Roche filhe de Jean
Roche de pontous et Blasie dubernart parrin
Me Jean Jalaichon (?) Apoticaire d'Agen et marrine
marguerite Bay---e par moy recteur Soubz
Signe prs Les tesmoins bas ensignes
Roche recteur
Vistorte verdier ----- pnt de bernaud (?)

Marguerite ROCHE, definitely identified as daughter of Jehan ROCHE, seems to be the one who was baptized on 11 November 1601, child of Jehan and Blaise de BERNARD.[11] At the time of her marriage to François VEDRINES, she was the widow of Pierre REYRE (REIRE), and had one child - a son, Antoine REYRE, who was to become, before 1651, a counselor à la cour présidale d'Agen.[12] He married Catherine ROQUIER, and their names are often associated with the VEDRINES in Sainte-Livrade records.[13] Antoine inherited from both his father Pierre and his uncle François REYRE while still a minor, and François VEDRINES and Marguerite handled the inheritance for him.[14]

Antoine REYRE, counselor du roi au siège d'Agen had married Catherine ROQUIER before 1659.[15] He and his family kept in close touch with his mother Marguerite, and the relationship with his half-brother Jean VEDRINES must have been good. One child of the REYRE-ROQUIER marriage was born 23 January 1659 but not baptized until 15 February 1661.[16] Perhaps the reason for the delay should not be guessed, but it can be supposed that it was

to have the boy baptized in Sainte-Livrade, and to honor his mother and his half-brother by choosing them as godparents. Two more examples show continued intimacy between Marguerite's sons: In 1663, Antoine REYRE stood as godfather for Anthoine VEDRINES, and in 1670 Catherine ROQUIER was chosen as godmother for Jean Philippe VEDRINES, even though she was unable to attend the baptism. Both infants were sons of a VEDRINES-GAUTIER marriage.[17]

The wife of François VEDRINES, Marguerite ROCHE, has left an impression of life and vitality in the old musty records. Even her signature tells us something about her. The style, joining the M and R, is seldom seen except in the signatures of men in that period. She always writes it boldly; even when she was over sixty years old the signature is large and strong.[18]

Her signature "MRoche" is on a document dated 19 May 1663.[19] A demoiselle signs "Marguerite roche" on 1 December 1667,[20] but this is more probably a niece. The Madame Marguerite ROCHE who was buried in Sainte-Livrade at age seventy-four years on 30 May 1668[21] certainly could be the widow VEDRINES.

Sainte-Livrade seems to have had as a core some relatively stable family groups who must have been there for more than one generation. Most of the families that are connected with the VEDRINES family are names found in the earliest register of Sainte-Livrade, dated December 1578 - 22 January 1583.[22]

LACOSTE	VERDIER
VISTORTE	COLOMBIER
DANTIN	HEBRARD
DELPON	LAFAIGE
DESCAMPS	BARDET
MAURON	FORT (See Appendix B)
GRANIE	CARRIERE (CARRERE)
SAUMAD	JACOUBET
FRAISSENGUES	PERRY
SERRES	DUPLEYS
VIDAL	RAYMOND (See Appendix B)
ALAUX	SIMON (See Appendix B)

Sainte-Livrade records from February 1583 through 1593 are lost. The second oldest register from the Sainte-Livrade church covers the years 1594-1605,[23] and many of the same VEDRINES' names appear:

Gerault VEDRINES, husband of Isabeau MIE (MYE)
Pierre VEDRINES, merchant, now husband of Isabeau DUPLEIX (1597)
Jehan VEDRINES, husband of Anne SIMON
Anthoine VEDRINES, husband of Anthonie MAURON
Gerault VEDRINES, husband of Isabel [VIGNES? VINYE?]
Jehan VEDRINES, husband of Mondette ARMONC (Another Jehan VEDRINES is godfather of their child Jeanne, June 1597)
Jehan VEDRINES, husband of Leonore [Helene?] MIRAMOND (Another Jehan VEDRINES is godfather of their daughter Marguerite in June 1597)
Mathurin VEDRINES, husband of Astrugue DALCHE
Jeanne VEDRINES, godmother of VEDRINES-SIMON son
Marguerite VEDRINES, wife of Antoine DUPLEIX and mother of Francois who is godfather of a VEDRINES-DUPLEIX son (1603)
François VEDRINES, godfather of a VEDRINES-MYE daughter
Guillamete VEDRINES, godmother of the same VEDRINES-MYE daughter
-------- VEDRINES, godfather of a VEDRINES-[VIGNES?] child
-------- VEDRINES, present at the baptism of a VERDIER-ROCHE son (1602)

It is well to remember that some of the extracts must be pondered with caution, and should not be accepted as part of our VEDRINES' genealogy except where there is confirmation.

In summary, Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES' known and proven ancestors are:

François VEDRINES
probably baptized: 1 August 1599; if so,
son of Jehan and Anne SIMON
civil judge of Sainte-Livrade
deceased: 20 April 1657
married: circa 1630 to
Marguerite ROCHE
widow of Pierre REYRE; mother of Antoine REYRE
probably baptized: 11 November 1601; if so,
daughter of Jehan ROCHE and Blaise BERNARD
buried: 30 May 1668

One son of this marriage:
Jean, also Jehan, VEDRINES
born: circa 1630-1639
married: 13 February 1659
Françoise GAUTIER

His sister married (?) LAFAIGE

Chapter V

Seventeenth Centuty Testaments

Testament of Marguerite ROCHE, 1651

Because of the two very interesting testaments she wrote, Marguerite ROCHE seems more real than her husband, François VEDRINES. Yet, through them, one can see that he was a good husband, father, and step-father--honorable, trustworthy, and respected.

Her first will was written in 1651[1] after the son of her first marriage was an adult and had achieved the position of counselor à la cour présidale d'Agen. It is natural that she mentions first the younger son, Jean VEDRINES, still a minor. But the main purpose of the will seems to have been to preserve the rights of her husband, his father, who is to have usufruct of all of the property of her marriage until Jean reaches age twenty-two, besides all of the increase made during the marriage for his lifetime.

Few women today write wills even with the help of lawyers. Marguerite wrote hers herself, with confidence in the clarity of her thought and expression and heedless of the finer points of spelling.

The will of 1651 written by Marguerite ROCHE begins with the Sign of the Cross and consignment of her soul to God's mercy: 27 August 1651, at their house in the town of Sainte-Livrade, Marguerite ROCHE wrote the testament to prevent contention among her heirs after her death.

Her first legacy was to the priests at the chapel of Notre Dame de la Rose, ten livres for Masses for her soul and an additional ten livres to be given by her husband three days after her death. Her second legacy was an annual pension of ten livres, to begin ten days after her death, to Marguerite BRALES. (Unfortunately for the curious, the reason for a pension for BRALES is not noted.)

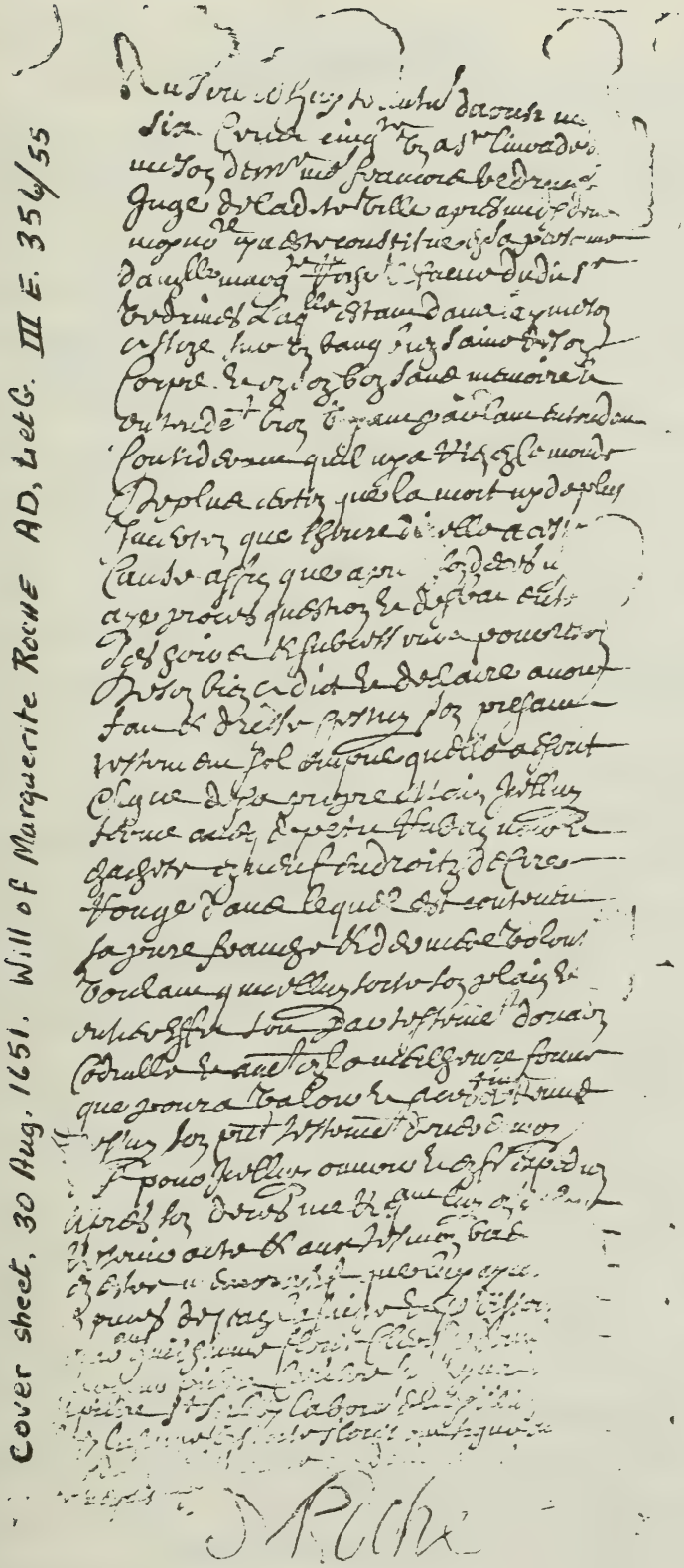
Next she wrote of her son Jean's share in her estate, then of the usufruct of all her possessions in the marriage, plus half of the acquisitions, to be held by her husband, François VEDRINES, until Jean, their son, reaches the age of twenty-two years. Even then, Francois would have use of all the acquisitions made during the marriage until his death, as long as he does not remarry.

When Jean reaches twenty-two, his half-brother Antoine REYRE has been ordered to pay him the interest on the marriage portion that is Marguerite's share of Antoine's inheritance, and he is not held to paying either principal or interest on the other part.

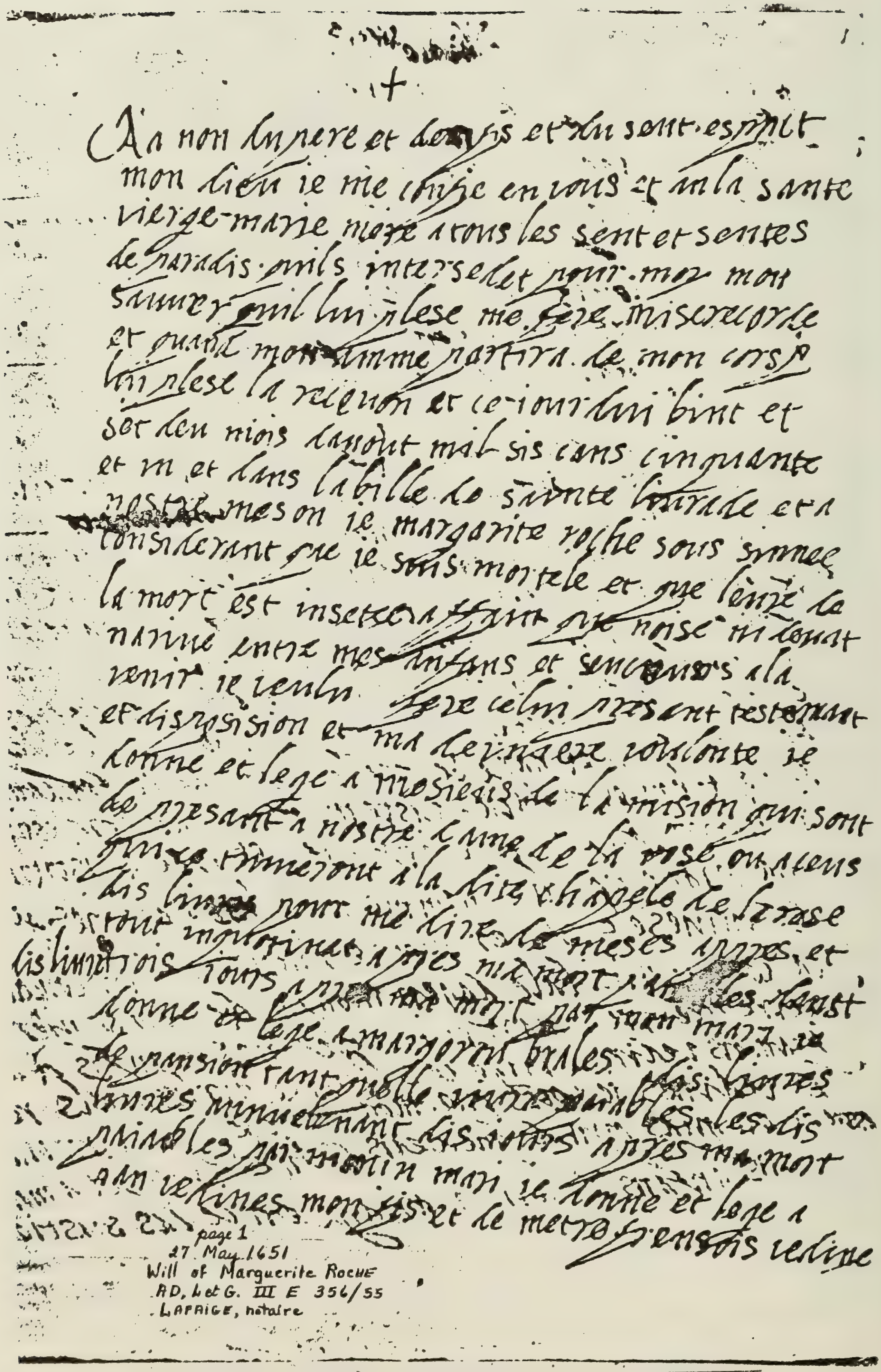
Her funeral is to be at the discretion of her husband and at his expense.

After naming as her general and universal heirs her two sons, she declares that any other testament is revoked by this one, because it is her last will which she has written and signed.

During the afternoon of 30 August 1651, the notary Pierre LAFAIGE and the witnesses gathered at the home of Maître and Madame VEDRINES. Madame VEDRINES, seated on a bench, spoke to all of them. She was physically healthy and sound of mind, and declared that she had written a testament because of the certainty of death and the uncertainty of its hour and to avoid any dispute between her heirs in the apportionment of her possessions.


Cover sheet, 30 Aug. 1651. Will of Marguerite Roche AD, LetG. III E. 354/55

Testament of Marguerite Roche, 1651



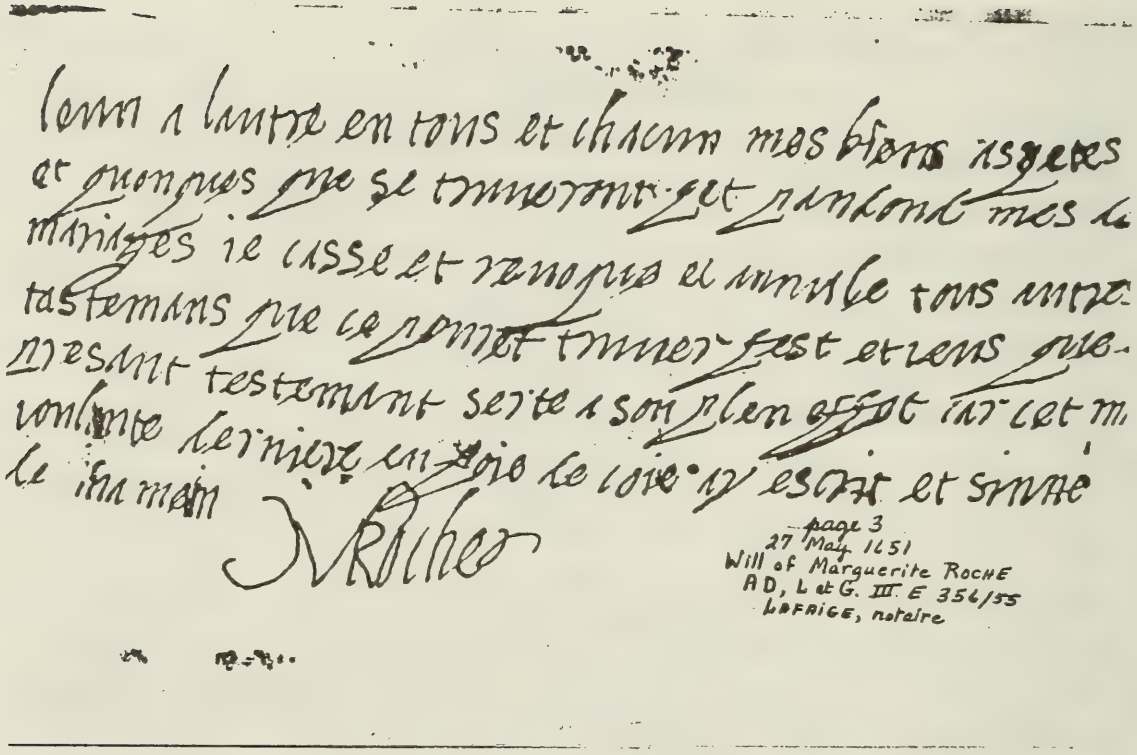
\+

Au non du pere et du fys et du sent esprit
mon dieu ie me confie en vous et en la sante
vierge marie mere a tous les sent et sentes
de paradis quils interseder pour moy mon
sauveur quil lui plese me fere misericorde
et quand mon amme partira de mon cors
lui plese la recevoir et ce iourdui vint et
set deu mois daoust mil sis cans cinquante
et un et dans la bille de sainte livrade et a
nostre meson ie margarite roche sous sinnee
considerant que ie sous mortele et que lheure de
la mort est insertaine [illegible] que noise ni debat
venir ie [illegible] fere celui present testament
et disposision et ma derniere volonte ie
donne et lege a mesieurs de la mision qui sont
de present a nostre dame de la rose [illegible]
[illegible] a la dite chapelle de la rose
[illegible] mes ossequies apres ma mort [illegible]
[illegible] tours [illegible] ma mort par [illegible] mari [illegible]
donne et lege a margarite brales [illegible]
de pansion tant [illegible] livres
[illegible] [illegible] les dis
[illegible] apres ma mort
[illegible] ie donne et lege a
[illegible] mon fis et de metre [illegible] iean francois ledine

page 1
27 May 1651
Will of Marguerite Roche
AD, Lot G. III E 356/55
LAPAIGE, notaire

cinge de s bins de [redacted] mires de mon mariage par
bien et auvrage je donne et lege mon mary mettre
François vedites la jouissance tous mes biens tant de
mon mariage que moite dures tant quil viura, sans
de mon mariage nuises que nostre SS die aten age
le bint et deux ans et années deux et antans que le
dict jan jouise de sa part de mondict mary
pour les acct que ce sont et pendant nostre viag
deux et antans, que mon mari en jouise toute sa
vie sans que le dict jan en puise jouir tant que se
rege viura deux que quand ledict jan aura atteint
age de bint et deux ans que mon fis [redacted] mitienne
je que je sem le bien dedict mitienne dudict jan
et que pour la part dedict dict reize ne sera tenu a
aucuns principal i interet deux et antans que mes
funerailles soit faites par mon mary a sa discresion
et a ses de jans attandent que luy donne les effets
de mon bien et parle ce que le chef de et fondement
de tout bon et valable testament est de faire estimer
un heritier ou heritiere un fois et cree et istitue de
ma propre bouche nomme mes [redacted] heretiers generals
et universels sauer mettre mitienne reize conder
reize premier mary et jan fedines mon fis et de m
François vedines juge de s bindes par les quels reize
et vedites je veux que mon enfant soit reuellu e
et en mon nom de mes deux cents livres tournois a mon
sans autans de leur mariage en ce cas sustie lun

page 2
24 May 1651
Will of Marguerite Roche
AD, Het G. III E 356/55
LAFAIGE, notaire


page 3
27 May 1651
Will of Marguerite ROCHE
AD, L et G. III E 356/55
LAFAIGE, notaire

The will was closed with a small black ribbon, and sealed with red wax imprinted with a cachet.[2]

Although LAFARGUE[?], VISTORTE, and HOUR [FLOUR?] were named as signers, all signatures besides "MRoche" have faded. Names of witnesses that could be at least partially deciphered within the last paragraph are Jean LAFAIGE, ____ VISTORTE, Guillaume [FLORET? HORDE?], Pierre CARIERE, and St. SALBY LABORE [perhaps a place name?].

Marguerite's distinctive signature stands out clearly on the bottom of the cover sheet, but it is even larger and bolder at the end of the testament itself.

Testament of Marguerite ROCHE, 1662

Marguerite ROCHE wrote another will, on the night of 10 May 1662 in the town of Sainte-Livrade.[3] She is a widow: Jean VEDRINES is a judge in Sainte-Livrade, and Antoine REYRE is still a counselor at Agen.

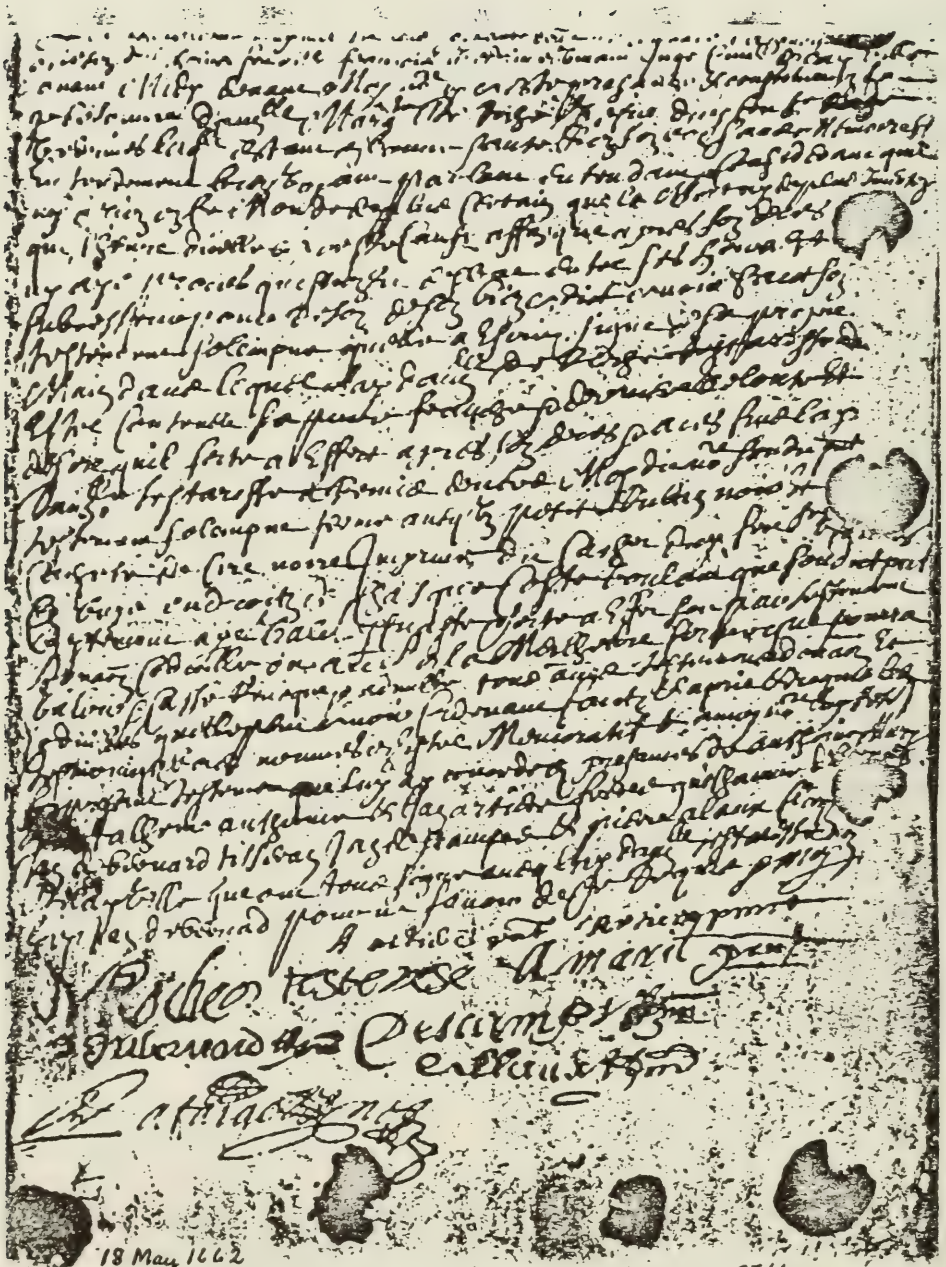
Before going into her bequests, as a good Christian she consigns her soul and body to God, and asks pardon for her sins. The funeral expenses are to be at the discretion and expense of her heirs but she chooses her burial place, "our tomb where my husband was buried in the Sainte-Livrade church".

The widow VEDRINES mentions that she had brought into her first marriage to REYRE 4,000 livres.

She names as her two heirs, for equal portions, her two children: Jean VEDRINES and Antoine REYRE. After she cautions those two not to question how she and François VEDRINES had handled their respective shares up to that present day, she declares that either one who went counter to this would be given five sous only, and the other would become sole heir to her estate.

On the morning of 18 May 1662, the notary LAFAIGE went to the house in Sainte-Livrade of the deceased Maître François VEDRINES who had been the Juge Civil of that town. There Marguerite ROCHE, François' widow, stated that she had already written her last will and testament which she closed with a little black ribbon and sealed with black wax[4] imprinted with the cachet of her deceased husband VEDRINES. Before the notary and witnesses, she declared that this testament annulled all previous ones.

Of the several witnesses, only one - a de BERNARD -declares that he cannot sign. The witnesses named are: Antoine MARY, master tailor, who signes "A Marit"; Antoine and Jean ARTIDE, brothers, who sign "A artide" and [ARTIERG?]; Guillaume de BERNARD and Jean de BERNARD, only one of whom signs "dubernard"; Jean DESCAMPS, who signs "Descamps"; Pierre ALLAUX, who signs "allaux". The notary LAFAIGE also signs along with the testator who signs, as usual, "MRoche".



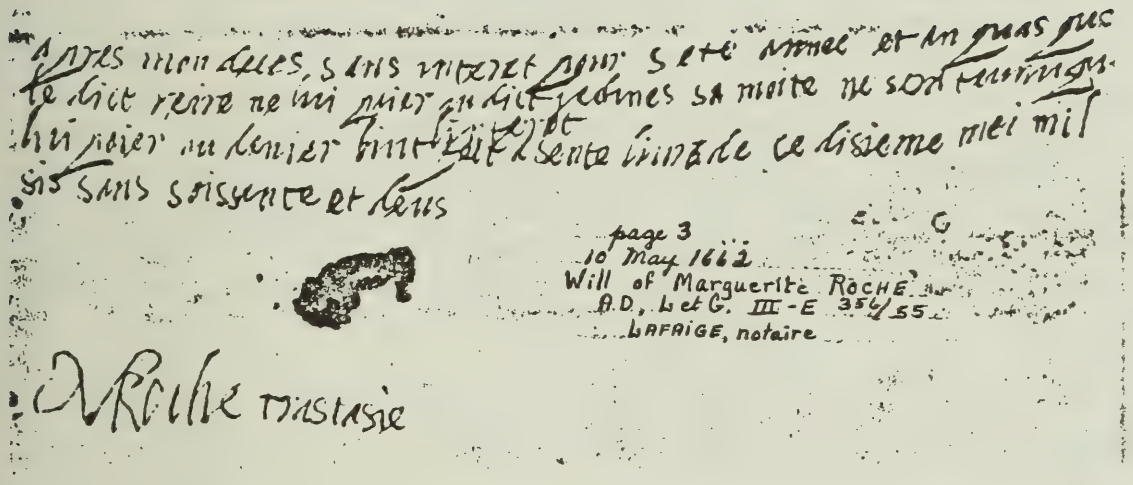
18 May 1662
Cover sheet, Will of Marguerite Roche AD, Lot C. III E 354/55

Testament of Marguerite Roche, 1662

6 March 1662

page 1
10 May 1662
Will of Marguerite Roche
A.D., L. et G. III-E 356/55
LAFAIGE, notaire

page 2
10 May 1662
Will of Marguerite ROCHE
AD, L et C. III-E 354/55
LAFAIGE, notaire



Marguerite ROCHE's testament of 1662 was sealed in several places with black wax imprinted with "le cachet dudit feu Sieur Vedrines". All are crushed or damaged except one. That surviving seal of François VEDRINES, designed within an octagonal shape, has within it letters surmounted by two leafy branches, laying horizontally and crossed at the left end. The symbols which are rather like a block-form monogram, could represent either three or four letters, V M F and I M F being the strongest possibilities. Of the two, the more probable representation is V M F for VEDRINES MAITRE FRANCOIS; although I M F could be read, perhaps for JEAN VEDRINES/ MAITRE FRANCOIS.[5] This seal is typical of those used in that period and place by the judiciary.

Other VEDRINES Testaments

Although testaments rarely mention age, place of birth, or parents of the testators, they usually mention children and the wife or wives who were the mothers of these potential heirs. The two abstracts that follow are examples of particular interest because both were written by VEDRINES. Again, note that there is no known family relationship of these two men with the VEDRINES who are the center of this study, but keep in mind the very real probability that all descend from a common ancestor.

Testament of Pierre VEDRINES, 1622

The testament of Pierre VEDRINES in 1622[6] gives strength to the theory that all of the VEDRINES in Sainte-Livrade in the sixteenth and the seventeenth centuries descend from a common ancestor, one who may have owned the property called Lapèze. The will indicates La Peze as his homeplace, mentions two VEDRINES who are neighbors and relatives, and refers to a nephew François VEDRINES whom he evidently knew well and admired.

On 27 August 1622, VEDRINES wrote the will at his home near the village of La Peze in the jurisdiction of Sainte-Livrade. After first mentioning his purpose - so that there will be no lawsuits concerning the estate - he sees about his soul, his body, and his belongings, in that order. In writing of his funeral arrangements, he mentions the giving of bread to the poor who would gather in front of his home on the day of his burial and at the end of the year.

Pierre VEDRINES and Jeanne JACOBET (daughter of Bernard JACOBET and Jeanne ROCHE) had three children: Gerard, deceased; Jeanne, who married Pierre [BACGLE? BAYLE?]; and Marguerite (baptized in November 1581) who married Jean RABYE.

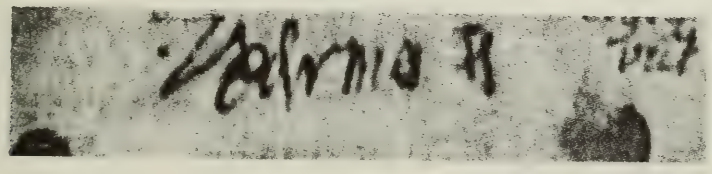
Pierre's next marriage was to Isabeau DUPLEIS (daughter of Arnaud DUPLEIS, écuyer, and Anne DANTIN) and seven children resulted: Arnaud, deceased before his father's will was written; Anne, married to Pierre [BACGLE? BAYLE?]; Marthe, married to Anthoyne

QUAYET, a merchant and orfebre of Villeneuve; Izabeau, still unmarried when her father wrote the testament; Marye, who had died unmarried; François (baptized in 1603); and Jehan. These last two are named universal heirs.

A prosperous landowner's daughter often received her inheritance as her dot when she married, rather than at her parents' deaths. Anne VEDRINES' dot was 290 livres plus furniture and probably a hope chest. In cash Jeanne had received 75 livres when she married, as had Marguerite. Marthe had gotten 300 livres as her dowry. In each case, the money the girls had received represented their share of the estate, and their father emphasizes this by making them heir to only five sous!

For Mademoiselle Yzabeau, still unmarried, her father records that she will receive, when she marries, her trousseau, hope chest, and money: a rose dress of Nimes [a fabric], one garnet-red coutillion de cadis de nymes [a ballgown?], two tablecloths and a dozen napkins, a chest of worked wood, and 310 livres. All these, including the dress[es?] and 200 livres are the legacy from her mother, to be given her on her wedding day. Each year she will be given twenty-five livres toward the total of 310 livres.

Pierre VEDRINES, a captain and a merchant,[7] has extensive land holdings which his two sons, François and Jehan, will receive. Francois will have a tract of land with all its buildings, fronting on the carrière de la pèze, at the land and vines of Jehan and Anthoyne VEDRINES "oncle nepveu" (uncle, nephew). [Is Jehan the testator's uncle and Anthoyne the son of the testator's brother? It is imprecise.] The tract borders also on Pierre LARTIGUES, on the land and vineyards of Jacques VEDRINES,[8] and extends "to the river Lot, having only the river bank and the road between."



Signature of Pierre Vedrines
6 April 1623

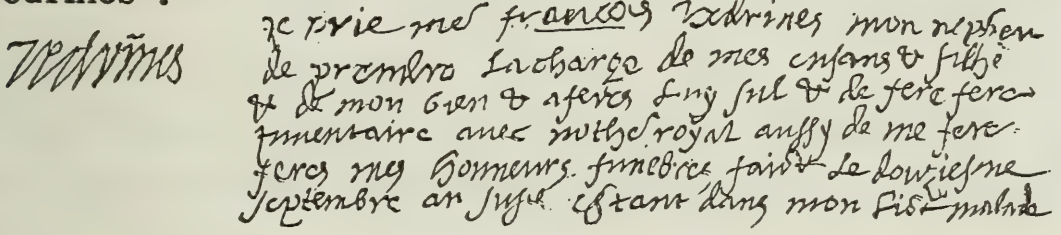
The road along the Lot, near Lapeze
The river bank is on the right.

Jehan is named heir to four and one-half cartonats bounded by the two pieces of land belonging to the heirs of deceased Salomon LESPARRE, by the carriere de la peze and by the Lot's riverbank and the road along it. Jehan will also receive five cartonats of land near le bore [le bourg?] called "de phelipon", bounded by land of Guyot GUARY, by land of Pierre DELPON, and by land of Olivier BERNAUD, bourgeois of Bordeaux. Another tract for Jehan is the five cartonats "al Sabidin" [perhaps St. Badis?] bounded by the land of the heirs of Delphine BENAUD and by the land by Guyot GUARY.

Pierre VEDRINES obviously felt that the 10 cartonats of land with buildings which he leaves to François are worth more than the assorted pieces left to Jehan, so he provides for François to give twenty livres beyond his equal share in their father's other possessions. If either son dies without heirs, his portion goes to the survivor. If both die without heirs, the portions are to go to their sisters Anne, Marthe, and Ysabel, or to their heirs. He records that the will is to be sealed with his cachet, in red wax, and he signs.

On the twelfth of September Pierre is in his bed, ill. He adds with trembling hand a note to his will, asking that his nephew François VEDRINES take charge of his

children and of all his possessions, doing it alone except for having an inventory done with a royal notary. He asks his nephew to make him proud of his funeral honors. Then in somewhat steadier hand, he again signs, "Vedrines".



On the morning of 6 April 1623, he calls for the notary LAFAIGE and witnesses Jacques VEDRINES and Jean VIGOUROUX to sign that the 1622 document is truly his last will and testament. He may have recovered from that first frightening illness but he was obviously very sick seven months later when the cover-sheet was witnessed. There, his signature is barely recognizable.

Last Will and Testament of François VEDRINES, 1653

Even though he was in good health on 14 April 1653, a François VEDRINES made a detailed will so that at his death there would be no lawsuit, question, or dispute among his heirs.[9] His prayerful sentences concerning his soul and eternity cover a longer part than those in the previous examples. Like Pierre VEDRINES in 1622, he wants to be buried in the Sainte-Livrade church, in the tomb of his predecessors. However, unlike the widower Pierre, he leaves the funeral details to his wife, Marie (Anne) PERRY.

To the church of Notre Dame de la Rose, François leaves eight livres. For her "good and agreeable services", he wishes his wife to have usufruct of each and every one of his possessions, present and future, for as long as she lives without remarrying, without rendering account to anyone.

The property he mentions includes the home at the "lieu des Miguels", where he was at the time the will was written.[10] That homeplace was really a farm, too, and the possessions he names with it provide a picture of an agricultural enterprise: produce such as wheat, rye; trees such as chestnuts, apples, pears, and others.

There was, besides the home, a building called a chay [for storage, probably of wine] with a small attic above it, and there was an oven [probably for bread, possibly for drying prunes]. François also writes of flax and hemp, peas and beans, chickens and eggs, and a hog to feed for slaughtering.

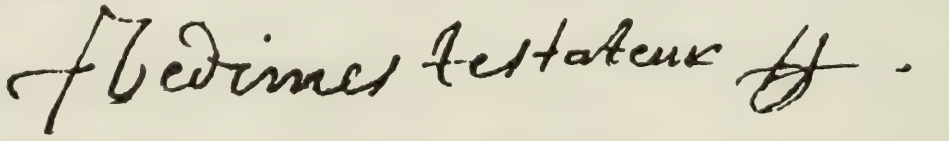
Besides this country-house and farm, François and his wife Marie had a town-house in Sainte-Livrade, only a few kilometers away from Miguels, and on its grounds was a garden of plants and herbs.

Since Marie PERRY is still of child-bearing age in 1653, her husband provides for a possible posthumous child by allowing 1,000 livres and whatever movable property his wife would choose for it. His two sons, Guillaume and Pierre,[11] are named general and universal heirs for equal portions.

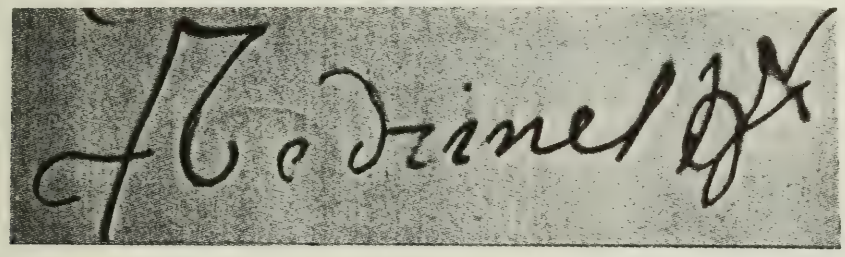
François arranges distribution of his estate in case all the heirs named above die without successors, and provides sums for the children of his sister and of his brother: Olivier, Géraud and Izabeau LACOSTE; Géraud and Anne VEDRINES. These last two are children of his brother Géraud, the procureur (attorney), and the girl Anne is his god-daughter.

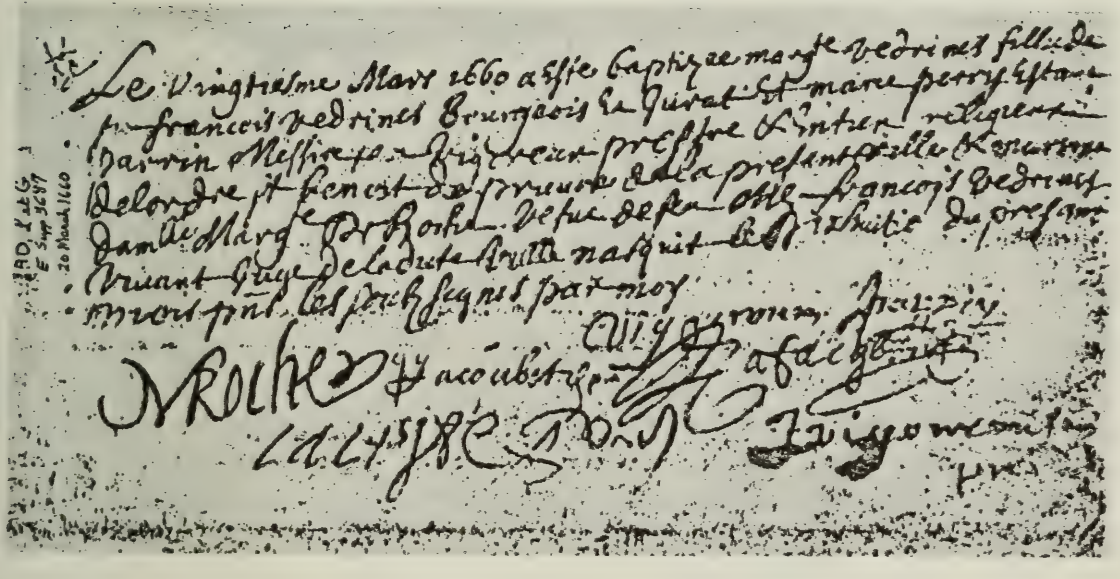
Antoine LAFAIGE, the royal notary of Sainte-Livrade, wrote the will for François, and he is the one chosen to make the inventory, to be done in the presence of Geraud VEDRINES père, the testator's brother. The document is signed by "F Vedrines", and by "A Lafarge".

The following afternoon, the cover-sheet is witnessed in the presence of P. LAFAGE marchant consul, Anthoine LAFAGE, Pierre LARTIGUES also marchant, Francois [DE_LAURER ?], Pierre VISTORTE bourgeois, ____ VISTORTE [pere?], and Jean JULHIA sergent royal of Sainte-Livrade. Most of the signatures are legible although there are blots, most caused by the red wax and black band that was used to seal the will.



On the cover-sheet of his testament, François VEDRINES is identified as "bourgeois et jurat", and the same identification is used on a daughter's baptism. Francois and Marie had at least this one child born after the above testament was written. She was named Marguerite on her baptism 20 March 1660 for her godmother Marguerite ROCHE, widow of François VEDRINES.[12] The choice of the old widow as godmother of his child is a further indication of a close family tie. It is very possible that the deceased judge Francois VEDRINES was an uncle or an older cousin of the child's father, this François VEDRINES.





Baptism of Marguerite Vedrines, 1660, signed by her godmother Marguerite Roche, widow of Francois Vedrines.

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Chapter VI

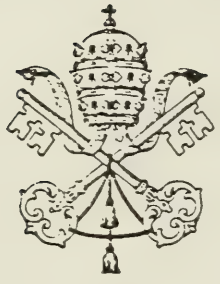
A Marriage Dispensation, 1683

One of the most important documents for the VEDRINES genealogy is the 5 July 1683 marriage dispensation found by Mlle L. Bourrachot, documentaliste, in 1970.[1] A part of the Series G, Archives of the diocese of Agen, it includes the depositions of the prospective partners in marriage and of witnesses from their hometown, made before Jean DAUREE, priest and doctor of theology, archdiacre et chanoine of the cathedral church in Agen, and Guillaume Joseph PASSALAIGUE, greffier at the ecclesiastical court. Charles FRISSAN, advocate in that court, presented a summary of the case:

Bernard JACOUBET, bourgeois, Sieur de Nombel (age 45 years) and damoiselle Izabeau VEDRINES (age 18) daughter of Maître Jean VEDRINES judge of Sainte-Livrade, and of Françoise GAUTIER (both parties residents of said town) want to marry because Sainte-Livrade is such a small place that Isabeau does not know how to find another socially-suitable person besides JACOUBET, and will be forced to remain unmarried unless they can be dispensed of their consanguinal relationship, and they had Agen's court of Rome undertake obtaining a decree of dispensation from Pope Innocent XI.

As required by the decree of the previous May, the parties and two witnesses are interrogated, and then they promise to solemnize their marriage in the Roman Catholic Church. They are dispensed of the consanguinity that impeded this, so their future offspring will be legitimate.

MARRIAGE DISPENSATION PROCEEDINGS
1683



5 juillet 1683
Verbal de fulmination et dispense
de Parenté du 3 au 4 degré par consengte
Sur la petitesse du lieu
Pour Bernard Jacoubet Sieur de Nonbel
& Demelle Izabeau Vedrines

Pardevant nous Jean Daurée Pretre Docteur En theologie archdiacre et chanoine de L'Eglise Cathedralle d agen official d'agenois dans Le Parquet de notre Cour de L'officialité Escrivant soubz nomé Mr Guillaume Joseph Passalaigue notre greffier ordre ce jourdhuy Cinquiesme du mois de Juillet Mil Six cens quatre vingt trois s'est presenté Mr Charles foussan avocat en notre dite cour pour et avec Sieur Bernard Jacoubet bourgeois Sieur de nombel et demoiselle Izabeau vedrines fille de Mr Jean vedrines Juge de St Livrade et de francoise gautié habitans tous deux de Lay ville de Ste Livrade Lequel nous a dit que Ses parties ont fait resolution de Se marier ensemble par ce que Le Lieu de S(ain)te Livrade Est si petite que Lay dem(ois)elle vedrines ny Scavoit trouver d'autre parti sociable que Ley Sieur Jacoubet et resteroit sans Se marier mais ne Le pouvant Sans dispense a cause de la parenté qui Est Entr'eux du troisi(em)e au quatrieme degré par consanguinité Ils ont Envoyé en cour de Rome et obtenu de notre S(aint) pere Le pape Innocent unsie(me) une Bulle contenant la dispence de Lay parente de troisi(em)e au quatri(em)e degré par consanguinité sur Lay expo(sit)ion Laquelle nous estant adressée nous requirert La vouloir recevoir Et proceder a La fulmin(at)ion d'Içelle Sur quoi nous official Susdit attendeu que Lay Bulle nous est adressée Nous L'aurions receu avec honneur et Respect donnée a Rome a S(aint) pierre les Ides de may de la presente

annee mil six cens quatre vingt trois Scellée d'un Sceau de plomb pendant a une fisselle d'un coté Sont Empreintes les Effiges de S(ain)t pierre et S(ain)t paul une croix entre et de l'autre ces mots Innocentius papa undecimus attestee Le vingt quatre Juin dernier par frequet et delage banquiers en cour de Rome Establis a Bourdeaux de laquelle ayant fait f(ai)r(e) Lecture a notre d(it) greffier Nous aurions du tout octroye acte auy fourssan pour Les partis Et offert de proceder a lay fulmina(ti)on dans les formes ord(inai)res mais pour un prealable nous ordonnons q(ue) le tout Sera Communique au promoteur pour ce faire et p(ou)r conclu(si)on estre par nous ordonné ce qu'apres

Daurée official Et Comre apostolique

nonbel de jacobet foursan

Veu par nous la Bulle de Cour de Rome obtenu par Les dits Jacoubet et vedrines dattée des Ides de mai dernier Requerons estre ordonné que lesy Impetrans rendront leurs auditions cathegoriques Et fairont preüve des faits conteneus en Icelle par devant nous pour ce faire et a nous Communiqué estre requis ce quil apartiendra fait a agen ce Cinqui(em)e Juillet mil six cens quatre vingt trois

Saboureux (?), promoteur

Nous official et comm(issai)re apostolique susd(it) faisant droict de la requete du Promoteur ordonnons que les Impetrans rendront Leurs audi(ti)on Cathégoriques Et fairont preüve des faits Exprimés dans Lay bulle pour ce faire estre par nous ordonné ce quil apartiendra fait a agen Ley Jour Cinqui(em)e Juillet mil Six cens quatre vingt trois

Daurée official Et Comre apostolique

Et Le Même Jour Sest derechef presente Ley foursan Lequel Nous a dit qu'en exec(ut)ion de notre precedante ordonnence Les parties Sont prestres a rendre Leurs audi(ti)on Cathegoriques Et attendeu qu'ils sont Icy presens Nous a requis de vouloir proceder ce que nous official et Comm(is)s(ai)re apostolique susdits aurions

offert f(ai)r(e) Et procedé Separement et a part comme ensuite
Daurée official Et Com(missai)re apostolique
foursan

Bernard Jacoubet Sieur de Nombel habitant de la ville de S(ain)te Livrade agé d'environ quarante cinq ans faisant Profession de la Religion Catholique Apostolique et Romaine oui Cathegorique(men)t Sur les faits Suivans apres avoir de notre ord(onnan)ce Levé La main a dieu et Icellui promis et juré moyenant Serement dire verité

Interrogé S'il Connoit Lay dem(ois)elle Izabeau de vedrines dey lieu de S(ain)te Livrade & depuis quel temps

A Repondu quil La Connoit depuis son bas age

Interrogé Si Il a passé contract de mariage avec Lay Dem(ois)elle de vedrines et depuis quel temps et de quel no(tai)re Il a esté reteneu

A Respondu quil a passé contract de mariage avec lay De(moi)selle depuis Le mois d'avril dernier reteneu par vistorte no(tai)re royal

Interrogé quels furent les assistans aud(i)t contract de mariage & si Les Parens de lay dem(ois)elle y consentirent

A Respondu que Le Sieur vedrines Juge de S(ain)te Livrade et lay Dem(ois)elle de gautie pere et mere de lay dem(ois)elle y donnerent Leur consentement Et quelle fut assistée de plusieurs des autres parens

Interroge si Les bans duy mariage ont este tous trois proclamés

A Respondu qu'oui dans La parroisse duy S(ain)te Livrade dont Il Sont tous deux parroissieux

Daurree official Et com(missai)re apostolique
nonbel de jacobet

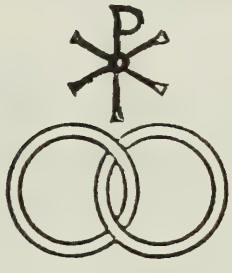
Interrogé Si Lay Dem(ois)elle de vedrines a este forcée ou violentee pour consentir au dit mariage ou a L obtention de lay bulle de Dispence

A Respondu quelle na este ravie forcée ny violentée pour consentir auy marriage qui a este agree de ses parens & Signé d'Eux et de la dite Impetrante qui a aussi donné Son consentement pour L obtention de la d(i)t(te) Bulle de Dispense

Interrogé S'il pretend se servir de lay bulle & accomplir Le mariage avec lay Vedrines

A Respondu quil pretend Se Servir de lay bulle & accomplir Le dit mariage

Interrogé Si ce quil a exprimé dans L'Impetration de lay bulle de dispense est veritable Sçavoir que lay Demoiselle de vedrines



Impetrante ne Scauroit trouver de parti sociable dans S(ain)te Livrade dou L' un et Lautre sont natifs et habitans a cause de La Petitesse du Lieu de pareille condi(ti)on a La sienne, qui ne soit son parent ou alie

A Respondeu quil est certain qu'a cause de la Petitesse duy Lieu de S(ain)te Livradè ou presque tous ceux de la qualité de lay dem(ois)elle sont Entre eux parens ou alies

Elle ne scauroit trouver de parti sociable a Sa Condition qui ni eut consanguinité ou affinite Entre eux

Interrogé d'Exprimer Leur Genealogie a quel Degré Ils sont parens et si cest par consanguinité ou affinité

A Respondeu qu'il Scait par Le raport de Ses parens & amis dud(i)t Lieu de S(ain)te Livrade que lay Dem(ois)elle et lui Sont

parens par Consenguinité du troisi(eme) au quatr(ieme) degré, mais quil ne Scauroit Exprimer Lay genealogie

Dauree official Et Com(missai)re apostolique

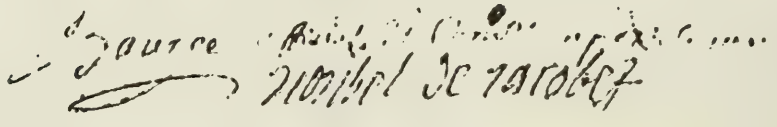
nonbel de jacobet

Interroge Si avant de passer contract de marriage avec La d(itte) Dem(oiselle) de vedrines Il scavoit quelle Estoit Sa parente

A Respondeu qu'il en fut Informé par Le Sieur Curé duy lieu avant de passer Ley contract de mariage quil ne passa que d'ans Le dessein d envoyer en cour de Rome pour obtenir la d(itte) Dispense Et Plus na esté Interrogé Lecture faite de son audition a dit contenir verite ni vouloir adjouter ni diminuer & a Signe avec nous et notre Greffier et a toutes les pages

Daurée official Et Comm(issai)re apostolique

nonbel de jacobet



Izabeau de vedrines demoiselle fille de M(ai)tre Jean vedrines Juge de S(ain)te Livrade et de dem(ois)elle francoise gautié habitans de Lay ville de S(ain)te Livrade agée d environ dix huit ans faisant profession de la Religion Catholique apostolique et Romain ouie Cathegoriquement apres avoir de notre ord(onan)ce Levé La main a dieu promis et Juré moyenant serement dire verité

Interrogée Si elle Connoit Le Sieur Jacoubet de Nombel et depuis quel temps

A Respondu questant du meme lieu depuis plusieurs années

Interrogé Si elle a passé contract de mariage avec ley Sieur Jacoubet depuis quel temps & par devant quel no(tai)re

A Respondu quelle a passe Ley contract depuis La Semaine Sainte au mois d'avril dernier lequel fut consenti agréé & Signé

Daurêe official Com(missai)re apostolique

Yzabeau vedrines

du Sieur de vedrines son Pere & de la de(mois)elle de gautié Sa mere le quelle y donna son consentement qui fut retenu par vistorte

Interrogee Si Les trois bans duy mariage ont este proclames Et dans quelle paroisse

A Respondeu quil ont este tous trois proclames dans Leglise paroissielle duy S(ain)te Livrade de laquelle Les Impetrans Sont paroissiens

Interrogée Si elle a esté ravie forcée ou violentee pour consentir auy marriage et pour obtenir Lay bulle de dispense

A Respondeu quelle na point esté ravie forcée ni violentee pour consentir auy mariage ni a l obtention delay bulle de dispense

Interrogee Si elle pretend Se servir delay bulle de dispense

A Respondu qu'oui et quelle nous en requiert La fulmina-(ti)on

Interrogé Sil est veritable que conformement a ce quelle a Esprimé dans l'Impet(rati)on de lay bulle elle ne sçauroit trouver de parti sociable a sa condi(ti)on qui ne fut son parent ou alié dans La ville de S(ain)te Livrade dou ley Sieur Jacobet & elle sont habitans & ce a cause de la petitesse du lieu

A Respondu qu il est tres certain que Lay ville de S(ain)te Livrade nestant pas fort Grande les gens de sa qualite y sont presque tous parens ou alies entr'eux Cest pourquoi Elle ne sçauroit trouver dans Ley lieu de parti sociable a sa condition qui ne soit Son parent ou alié

Interrogée d'articuler sa genealogie et celle duy Sieur Nombel Et a quel degre Ils sont parens Si cest par consanguinité ou affinite

A Respondeu quelle ne sçait point a quel degre ley Sieur Nombel

Dauree official et Com(missai)re apostolique

Et Elle sont parens mais quelle a ouy dire que cest du troisi(em)e au quatri(em)e degre et qu ainsi elle ne sçauroit articuler Sa genealogie offrant neanmoins de la f(ai)r(e) articuler et accepter

Interrogee Si avant de passer contract de mariage avec ley Sieur Jacoubet Elle Sçavoit qu'il y avoit parenté entr eux

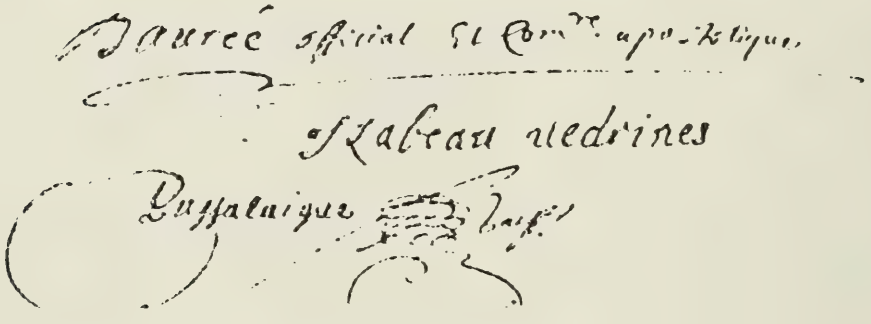
A Respondeu quelle ne le Scavoit pas pour lors mais quelle len fut ensuite Informée par Les parens & quil fut resoleu d'envoyer en cour de Rome pour avoir dispense de lay parenté

Et plus na esté Interrogé lecture faite de Sa responce a dit contenir verité ni vouloir adjouter ni diminuer Et a signe avec nous et notre Greff(ie)r et a toutes les pages

Dauree official Et Com(missai)re apostolique

Yzabeau vedrines

Passalaigue Greff(ie)r



Mr georges Alaux avocat en parlement habitant de la ville de S(ain)te Livrade agé d environ Soixante dix huit ans faisant profession de la Religion Catholique apostolique & Romaine temoin a nous Produit par Lesy Impetrans Lequel ayant de notre or(donan)ce Levé la main a dieu a promis et juré moyenant Serement dire verité Enquis Sur les articles Generaux de lord

A Dit Connaitre Ley Sieur nonbel & De(mois)elle de vedrines depuis Leur bas age et nestre leur parent alié Serviteur ou Domestique Et Sur les faits de la Susy bulle de dispense de laquelle

Lui a esté fait Lecture & donnée a entendre
Dauree official Et Com(missai)re apostolique
(Alaux)

Deposé quil sçait que Jean Roche pontous bourg(eois) duy S(ain)te Livrade et Jeanne Roche marie avec Bernard Jacoubet estoient frere et soeur, que duy Jean Roche naquit Marguerite Roche qui fut marie avec le feu Sieur vedrines Juge duy S(ain)te Livrade, Duquel mariage est provenant Mr Jean vedrines a present Juge duy S(ain)te Livrade qui sestant marie avec francoise Gautie Et q(ue) de Leur mariage est née Lay Izabeau vedrines Impetrante d'une part Et que d'autre part du mariage delay Jeanne Roche avec le d(it) Bernard Jacoubet nâquit jean Jacoubet mar(cha)nd duy S(ain)te Livrade qui sestant marié avec la de(mois)elle de Pons du lieu de S(ain)t pastour de leur dit mariage nâquit Bernard Jacoubet Sieur de nombel Impetrant et que par ainsi Lesy Impetrans Sont parens de trois(ieme) au quatr(iem)e degré par consanguinité ce quil dit tres bien Scavoir pour avoir conneu tous les Susnommées en lay genealogie a la reserve de Jeanne Roche & Bernard Jacoubet maries ensemble ayant pourtant Souvant oui dire despuis Son bas age que lay Jeanne Roche femme duy bernard Jacoubet estoit Soeur duy Roche pontous

Dit de plus que Ladite dem(ois)elle Izabeau Vedrines Impetrant ne Scauroit trouver de parti sociable a sa con(diti)on qui ne fut Son parent ou alié dans la ville de S(ain)te Livrade a cause de la petitesse du lieu, Et que presque tous ceux de la qualité de lay vedrines sont Parens ou aliés entr'eux, depose aussi tres bien Sçavoir que Lay Impetrante na point esté ravie forcé ny violentee pour consentir au mariage Lequel, a esté agrée de ses pere et mere et Le Contract de leur Mariage passe de leur consentement que p(ou)r tout ce quil a dit Scavoir Lecture faite de Sa depos(it)ion a dit contenir verité ni vouloir adjouter ni diminuer a signe avec moy et a la page precedante

Dauree official et Com(missai)re apostolique

Alaux deposant

Antoine Lafage darne bourg(eois) habitant delay ville de S(ain)te Livrade agé comme Il a dit d environ trente huit ans temoin a nous produit par Lesy Impetrans faisant profession de la Religion Catholique apostolique et Romaine Lequel ayant de notre or(donan)ce Levé La main a dieu Promis et juré moyenant serement dire verité

Enquis Sur les articles Generaux de l'ord(onance)

a dit connoitre Lesy Impretrans depuis Son bas age nestre point Leur Serviteur, mais estre Leur proche parent pour estre Cousin germain de Lay Izabeau vedrines, et estre cousin au second degré duy Sieur Nonbel, et neanmoins nonobstant Lay Parenté a promis dire verité

Et sur le fait conteneu en lay bulle de dispence Laquelle Lui a esté Lue et donnée a entendre

Depose quil sçait depuis son bas age que Lesy Impetrans Sont parens de troisi(em)e au quatri(em)e degré par consenguinité et ce pour L'avoir Souvant oui dire a la dem(ois)elle de vedrines Sa mere, et a Margueritte Roche grand mere duy deposant & de lay Impetrante Et autres anciens habitans duy S(ain)te Livrade, et que Bernard Jacoubet Sieur de Nonbel Impetrant est fils de Jean Jacoubet mar(ch)and Lequel Jean Jacoubet quil a veu et conneu

estoit fils de Bernard Jacoubet marié avec Jeanne Roche d'une part, et que dautre part Lay Isabeau Vedrines Impetrante est fille de Mr Jean Vedrines a present Juge duy S(ain)te Livrade, ce que ley Jean Vedrines est fils de francois vedrines aussi Juge duy S(ain)te Livrade et de marguerite Roche Laquelle marg(ueri)tte Roche Estoit fille de Jean Roche Sieur de Pontous Lequel Jean Roche estoit frere de Jeanne Roche femme duy bernard Jacoubet ayeule duy Impe(tran)t et que par ainsi Lesy Impetrans Sont parens par

Dauree official Et Com(missai)re apostolique

A Lafaige darnet deposant

Consenguinite du troisi(em)e ou quatri(em)e degré Depose aussi que presq(ue) tous les habitans duy S(ain)te Livrade de la qualite de lad(ite) Dem(ois)elle de vedrines estant parens ou alies entr'eux elle ne scauroit trouver dans ley lieu qui est une petite ville ou Il y a peu de gens qui y habitent de parti Sociable a Sa condi(ti)on pour Se marier ce quil dit tres bien sçavoir comme estant du même Lieu & connoissant toutes les personnes qui y Habitent Et dans La paroisse, Dit de plus q(ue) lay Dem(oi)selle Izabeau a consenti volontairement aud(it) marriage quelle en a Signé le contract avec Ses pere & mere, quil sest fait par Lamitié reciproque qui est entre les parties Et q(ue) ley Depo(n)ant ayant proposé Ley mariage a lay Izabeau de la part de Son pere Elle y donna Son consentement avec plaisir et temoigna quelle n'avoit nulle repugnance a obeir a sond(it) pere dans cette Rencontre Comme aussi quelle na point este ravie comme il paroit par le Contrat de mariage Signé et agrée de toutes les parties et du pere et mere de la fille Lequel fut reteneu par vistorte no(tai)re royal duy S(ain)te Livrade lequel Ledeposant Signa aussi; que

p(ou)r Tout ce quil a dit Scavoir Lecture faite de sa deposi-(ti)on a Dit contenir verité ni vouloir adjouter ni diminuer et a signé avec nous notre Greffier et a la page precedante

Daurêe official Et Com(missai)re apostolique

A Lafaige darnet, deposant

Passalaigue Greffier

Et Ley Jour meme cinqui(em)e Juillet duy an mil Six cens quatre vingt trois Sest present derechef Ley foursan pour Lesy Impetrans Lequel nous a dit qu(e) attendeu que les partis ont plainement Satisfait a notre precedante or(donan)ce ce faisant rendeu Leurs auditions Cathegoriques et fait La preuve par nous ordonée

Il nous requiert quil nous plaise faire droict Sur lenterinement de lay bulle Surquoi nous official & Comm(issai)re apostolique Susd(it) avons f(air)e droict de la requi(siti)on duy foursan pour ses parties ordonnons que tout lay bulle que les auditions Cathegoriques de Impetrans et La preuve Par eux faite devant nous Le tout Sera Communiqué au promoteur pour donner les conclu-(si)on(s) diffinitives pour ce fait estre fait droict ainsi que nous aviserons

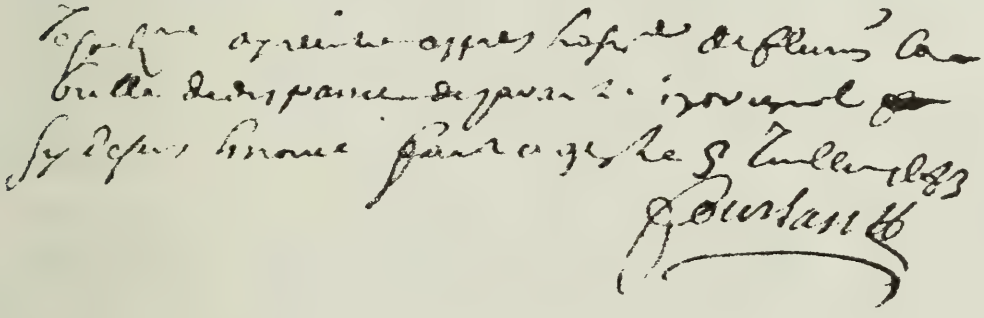
Daureê official Et Com(missai)re apostolique

Foursan

Veu Par nous promoteur Soubs(i)gne La Bulle obtenue par lesy Jacoubet et Izabeau vedrines Ensemble Leurs auditions Cathegoriques La preuve des faits conteneus en lay bulle Et leurs conclu-(si)ones finales N'empechons ainsy consentons a L Interinement de lay bulle ce faisant quil soit promis auxy Jacoubet et dem(oi)-selle de vedrines d'accomplir Le mariage entr'eux contracté non-obstant La parenté qui est entr'eux du troisi(em)e au quatri(em)e degré par consenguinite donc Ils seront dispensés en gardant les formes de l'Eglise le Constitu(ti)on du Diocese, et les Enfans qui naîtront duy mariage declares Legitimes fait a agen Ley jour Cinqui(em)e Juillet mil six cens quatre vingt trois

Saboureux promoteur

Here follow the lines written by the advocate of the official court of the diocese of Agen, Charles Foussan. Although the text is largely illegible, it is apparent that he writes of the final confirmation of dispensation. The document is dated July 5, 1683, and signed foursant (?).



Entre Bernard Jacoubet Sieur de Nonbel et Izabeau vedrines Demoiselle fille de Mr Jean vedrines Juge dela ville de S(ain)te Livrade & de francoise gautié habitans tous d'Eux de lay ville de S(ain)te Livrade au present diocese d'agen demendent L'Interinement d'une Bulle par eux obtenue de notre S(ain)t pere Le pape Innocent Unsiem(e) pour estre dispensés de la Parenté qui est entr'eux du troisi(em)e au quatrieme degré par consenguinité et pouvoir Se marier Legitimement Ensemble d'une part

Et Le Promteur du diocese joint en l'Instance d'autre. Veu Par nous Jean Daurée pretre docteur en theologie arche-diacre chanoine de l'Eglise Cathedralle d'agen official d'agennois Et Commissaire en cette partie depute Lay Bulle obtenue de notre S(aint) Pere Le Pape Innocent Unisieme par Lesdits Jacoubet et Izabeau vedrines donnée au Rome a S(aint) pierre les Ides de mai dernier en La septi(em)e annee du Pontificat de notre dit S(ain)t pere Escrite en parchemin Scellee d'un Sceau de plomb pendant a une fisselle ou d'un côté Sont Empreimées les Effigies de S(ain)t

pierre & S(ain)t paul une croix entre deux et deLautre ces mots Innocentius papa undecimus attestée Le vingt quatrieme Juin dernier par fresquet & Delage Banquiers en cour de Rome Establis a Bourdeaux, Proces verbal de La presenta(ti)on de lay bulle avec notre ord(onan)ce portant que les Impetrans rendroient leurs auditions cathegoriques et fairoient preüve des faits contenues dans Lay bulle, auditions Categoriques rendeus par devant nous par Lesy Impetrans Separement & apart, Preüve des faits conteneus en lay bulle par L'audition de deux temoins Conslus(io)n finales des Impetrans avec notre appo(s)ant portant que le tout Seroit Communiqué au Promoteur Ensemble les Conclu(si)on(s) diffinitives du Promoteur le tout de ce Jourdhui Et tout Considéré

Le nom de dieu Prealablement Invoqué & Muni du signe de la saincte Croix Executant lay bulle en verteu du pouvoir a nous donné par Icelle par notre S(ain)t pere Le Pape Innocent unsieme Avons permis et permetons aux Sieur Jacoubert de nonbel Et dem(ois)elle Izabeau de Vedrines de Solemniser & accomplir Le marriage entre Eux contracté en face de nôtre Saincte mere L.'Eglise Catholique apostolique et Romaine en gardant les formes prescrites par Le S(ain)t Concile de Trente Et Constitutions Synodales du present diocese non obstant la parenté qui est entr'eux du troisi(em)e au quatrieme degre par consenguinité donc en verteu du Meme pouvoir nous les avons dispensés et dispensons Et en Consequence declarons Legitimes Les Enfans qui naîtrons duy mariage fait a agen dans Le Parquet de nôtre Cour de L'officialité ce jourdhui Cinquieme du mois de Juilliet mil Six cens quatre vingt trois

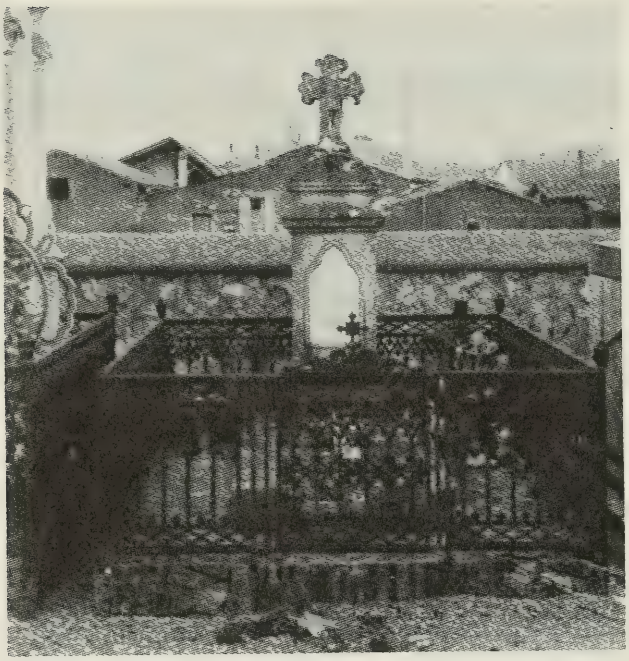
Dauree official Et Com(missai)re apostolique

Isabeau's deposition is contained in the advocate's summary, with the addition that she did not know that she and Bernard were blood-relatives within the fourth degree until her parents told her when she spoke of marriage. Her mind made up, her heart already given, she resolved to send to Rome for a dispensation.[2]

A witness, George ALAUX, was an advocate in Parlement and an old inhabitant of Sainte-Livrade. He had been a friend of the family for most of his seventy-eight years and he told how the young couple were related. Old George maintained that there was no one in Sainte-Livrade of the proper social position for Isabeau except Bernard. He added that the town was not so big, and the people (gens) of her quality were almost all related or allied[3] to each other.

Witness Antoine LAFAIGE [d'arnet?, bourgeois?, habitant?] of Sainte-Livrade, cousin germain of Isabeau and cousin in the second degree of JACOUBET de Nombel, promised to speak the truth although a relative of both parties. He told how he had known, since he was a small child, that Bernard and Isabeau were related, and had heard that Bernard's mother and Marguerite ROCHE were related to each other and to other old habitans of the town; and that Bernard is son of Jean JACOUBET, a merchant, who was son of Bernard, spouse of Jeanne ROCHE. Also, that Isabeau is the daughter of Jean, judge of Sainte-Livrade at present, and Jean is son of François VEDRINES also a judge at Sainte-Livrade, and of Marguerite ROCHE, the daughter of Jean ROCHE Sieur de Pontous. He states that Jean ROCHE and Jeanne ROCHE wife of JACOBET were brother and sister.

The strength of evidence in this record must not be taken lightly. In that historical period one did not lie to God's representatives, and an oath was a powerful bond to truth.[4]



Sainte-Livrade cemetery

The tombstone is inscribed

JACOUBET

The broken tombstone has

LA FAMILLE ROCHE

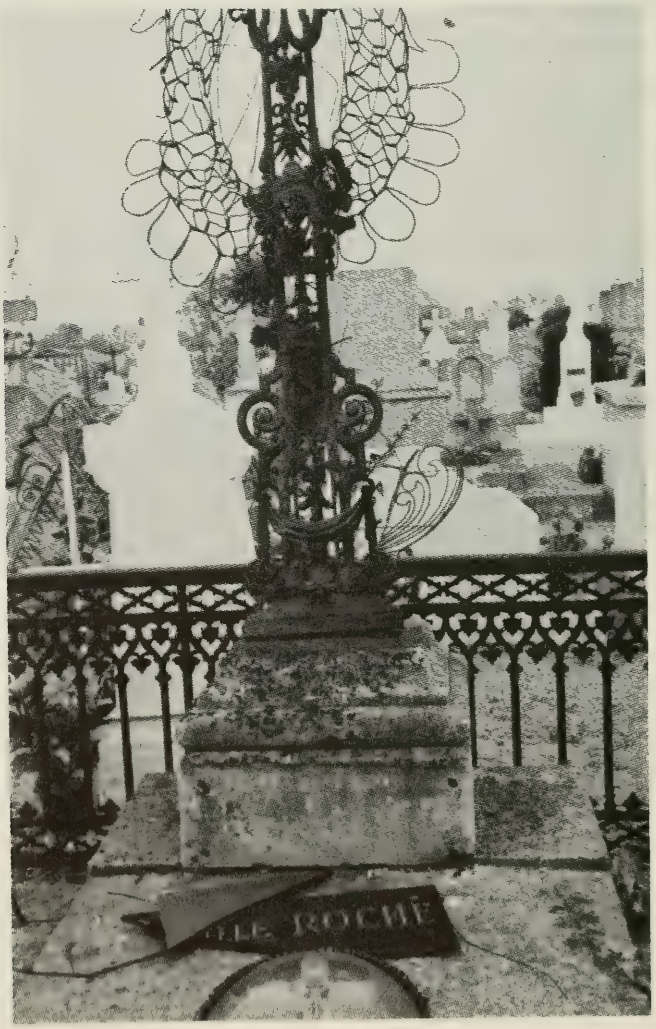
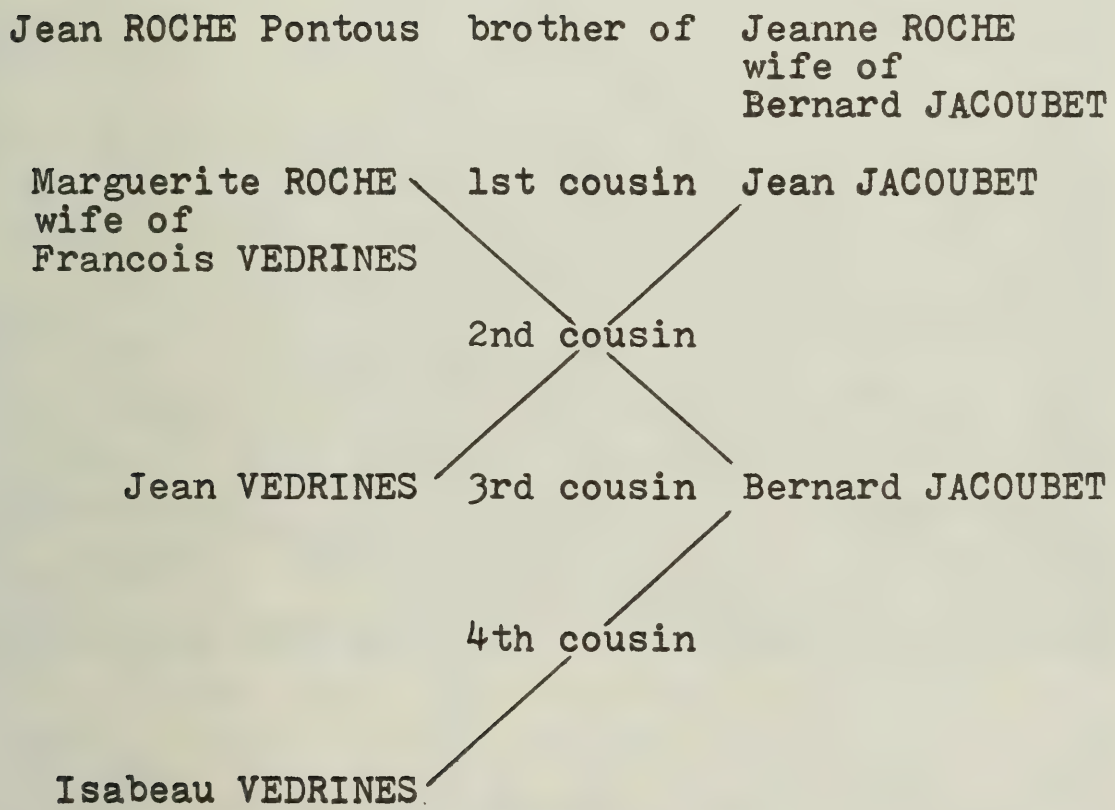
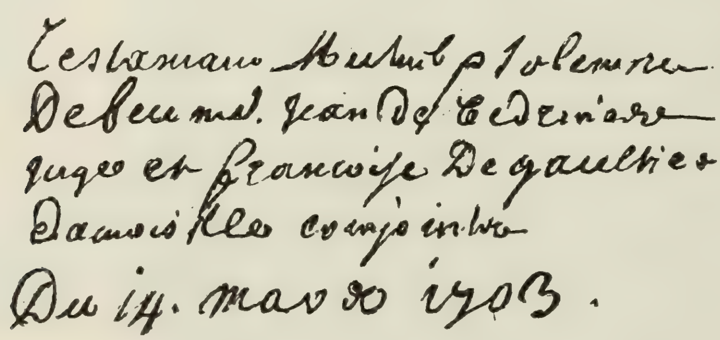


Chart of Relationship
for
VEDRINES-JACOUBET
Dispensation



Graphic analysis
of kinship;
developed by
Jan Tate, 1966


Testamant Mutuel et solemne
De feu me. Jean de Vedrines
juge et Francoise De Gaultier
Damoiselle conjoints
Du 14. mars 1703.

Vedrines-Gautier Testament, 1703
Cover Sheet. AD, L-et-G, III-E 358/11

Chapter VII

Jean Védrines and Françoise Gautier

In his mother's testament of 1651, Jean is presented as the only son of the François VEDRINES-Marguerite ROCHE marriage. The same testament is also one of the few clues to his year of birth when the mother mentions that he is under twenty-two, but this leaves a broad span of years in which to look for his baptism, and it has not yet been found. Surely he was a mature adult when he married in 1659 to Françoise GAUTIER - the record identifies him as juge civil of Sainte-Livrade. On these two records is based the assumption that Jean VEDRINES was born sometime after 1629, possibly as late as 1639. On Sunday, 9 February 1659, the priest of Sainte-Livrade formally announced Jean VEDRINES and Francoise GAUTIER's intent to marry. The same announcement, the first of their formal bans, was made in Françoise's home parish. Because Catholic marriages were forbidden during the forty days of Lent, the anxious young couple requested and received permission to dispense with the two more obligatory announcements. They were married 13 February 1659.[1]

The following translation of their marriage is from a print of the microfilm sent by the Archives Départementales de Lot-et-Garonne with insertions from my personal study of the original in 1979:

> In the year above [1659] and the ninth day of February Septuagesima Sunday, I, vicar undersigned having made an announcement at the time of the sermon at the parochial Mass, of the

marriage contracted between Monsieur Jean de VEDRINES, civil judge of the present town and Françoise GAUTIER of the parish of Monclar which [announcement] I handed over to the said Sieur VEDRINES to send to Agen along with the declaration of the same announcement by the vicar of Monclar, and [in view of] the declaration of Monsieur ROUSSET vicaire general, having the dispensation of the two last announcements, which I have [before] me, have joined together in Matrimony the said Sieur VEDRINE and de GAUTIER this 13 February.

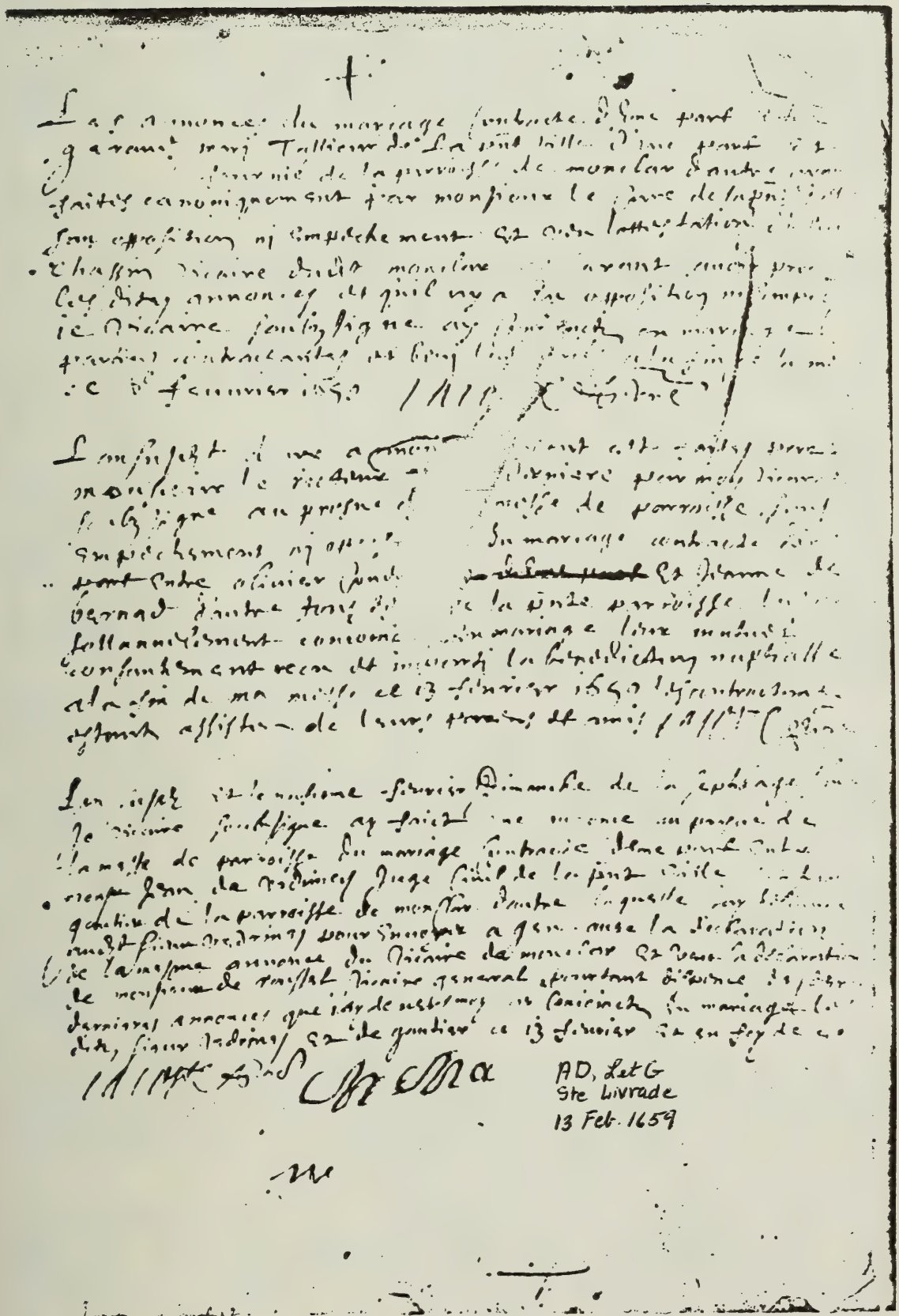
The record is signed by the priest, Vicar LACOSTE, and by another person apparently unaccustomed to signing whose name may be MENA or CHENA.

In the record at Sainte-Livrade of their marriage, Francoise GAUTIER is identified as being from Monclar, but it is not certain which place was meant. One map shows Monclar d'Agenais less than ten kilometers away; the people in Sainte-Livrade spoke of an old lieu-dit called Monclar about 1.5 kilometers from the town. The marriage registers of Monclar d'Agenais are extant only back to 1670. Her place of birth was more probably this larger Monclar d'Agenais, since it is a distinct and separate church parish, with its own vicar, where a bann was published.

Marriage: Vedrines-Gautier, 13 February 1659

L'an sup- [1659] Et le neuvieme fevrier Dimanche de la Septuagésime
Je vicaire Soubssigne ay faict une annonce au prosne
de la messe de parroisse du mariage Contracté d'une part Entre
mons^re Jean de vedrines Juge Civil de la pnt Ville Et françoise
gautier de la parroisse de monClar d'autre laquelle Jay delivre
audt Sieur vedrines pour Envoyer agen avec la declaration
de la mesme annonce du vicaire de monclar et veu la declaration
de monsieur rousset vicaire general pourtant dispence des deux
dernieres annonces que j'ay de .... moy ay conjoincte en mariage les
dites Sieur vedrines Et de gautier ce 13 fevrier Et en foy de ce

lacoste p vic -- e- a



AD, Let G
Ste Livrade
13 Feb 1659

It is a pity that the year 1659 is in one of the few volumes missing from the minutes of Pierre LAFAIGE since it could have been the one recording the marriage contract mentioned in the church register. The notarial papers of Monclar d'Agenais are practically non-existent, there being only three acts, all in the year 1629, that have been preserved.[2]

One civil record has been found that predates Jean and Françoise's last will and testament. It is a contract or bond for annual payments by Jean CARRERE in favor of Jean de VEDRINES, dated 9 January 1701.[3]

Before witnesses and the notary MAURON in the town of Sainte-Livrade, VEDRINES has handed over fifty-four livres to CARRERE, the sum made up of silver écus and other good money. For the use of this sum, which he can hold in perpetuity, CARRERE agrees to pay three livres annually, the payments to be made on the ninth of January of each year, with the first payment due that day. CARRERE can choose to pay the principle, or he can keep it as long as he pays the rente regularly. However, if three payments are missed, Jean de VIDRINES can demand the full amount plus the accumulated back interest.

The arrangements involved in the formal loan of money that Jean VEDRINES made in 1701 tells us he had cash on hand available to make such a loan. The information that is contained in notarial documents from 1703 to 1706 reveals much more about the life of the VEDRINES-GAUTIER couple. These consist of a mutual will, two codicils, and the formal presentation to the heirs of the second codicil.[4]

Together at their home in Sainte-Livrade on 14 March 1703, Jean VEDRINES and Françoise GAUTIER made a joint testament, knowing that all life ends in death and wanting to avoid disputes among their heirs. After the usual preliminary of religious supplication, they request burial in the tomb they have in the parish church, the survivor to see to the funeral and to the services after.

Jean assigns to his wife the effects and the usufruct of _____ of Verdie[5] and its dependancies and specifies that she can cut wood for heating from there; usufruct of the four de [gan?][6] which he has in the town; and an apartment in the house where they are now, with furniture and linens, for use during her lifetime.

Françoise gives to her husband usufruct of all she possesses for his lifetime.

They then name their living children: Marguerite, Françoise, Isabeau, Marie, Liberate, Anne, and Jean. Françoise and Marie are nuns, Françoise an Ursuline in Sainte-Livrade and Marie in the Convent of the Visitation in Agen. They will receive a pension of twelve livres besides what the parents have already given.

Marguerite, wife of Jean BROSSARD, doctor of medicine, had received by contract of marriage her dot (dowry), 2,600 livres from her father and 400 from her mother. For a total of 3,300 livres more, the heirs will give her 3,100 livres from her father, 200 livres from her mother.

Isabeau, now widow of Bernard JACOUBET de Nombel received 3,000 livres; 2,600 from her father, 400 from her mother. She is to receive 3,300 livres more, like Marguerite.

Liberate received, when she married François de GALLIBERT, Sieur de [Rouzein ?], 4,000 livres, 3,500 plus 500. She will receive 2,300 livres more, 2,200 from Jean and 100 from Françoise.

Anne will receive only 300 livres because she had as dowry, 6,000 livres when she married Antoine FAYDIC, 5,400 from her father and 600 from her mother.

Jean and Françoise then name as their heritier general et universal, their only son, Jean, avocat en la cour. If he should die without legitimate children, the inheritance is to revert to his sisters, or to their descendants.

The will, with notary Pierre MAURON as scribe, is signed at the bottom of each page by "vedrines" testateur, "fransoise gautier"[7] testatrise, and Mauron.

The next page is a note, again signed by all three as an approved addition, concerning the possessions of the first to die, as [was or was not?] assigned by their marriage contract.

The cover sheet is half-filled with the remarks concerning the witnessing of the testament. On the 16th of March, witnesses are called in and these sign after "vedrines" and "françoise gautier":

Pierre GRIFFOUL bourgeois, signs "p Griffoul"
Pierre AURIER fils aisne bourgeois, signs "P:ariere fils"
Guillaume BACLE, "Bacles"
Jean BACLE, "Jeanbacles"
Arnaud VIGNIES bourgeois, "Vignes"
Antoine CHAMPET marchand, "Champet"
Cezar VISTORTE huissier of this town and jurisdiction, "Vistorte"
The notary, Mauron, signs too, of course.

Three years later, a mutual codicil to their will of 14 March 1703 was made by Jean and Françoise. On 10 April 1706, again at their home in Sainte-Livrade, Jean is a sick man; his wife is in good health and both are of sound mind. The notary is again Pierre Mauron.

Jean leaves to each of his four married daughters an additional 200 livres (payable a year after the death of the surviving parent, without interest) from the share he has willed his wife, plus six livres to each to be paid annually during their lifetime. To Delphine MAURON, his servant, he gives twenty livres. The heirs are not to sell or mortgage (engager) their inheritance without approval of his wife.

If his son, Jean, would die without legitimate children of his marriage (he had married in 1704) he substitutes all his four married girls or their children. If one of his girls dies without children after this, the children of the other daughters are substituted, and so on.

Again, "vedrines", "fransoise gautie" and MAURON sign each page. There are no other witnesses, but the next page bears the same date and concerns the closing with a little black ribbon, the sealing with a cachet imprinted in red wax, in the presence of noble Martial de LARTIGUE chevalier Sr. de Bassabas; Mr. Jacques LESPARRE, priest and vicar of the town; [another, indecipherable]; Jean de LAUVEROL, doctor of medicine; and Pierre BAR__D, pr_____ of this town and that of Villeneuve, habitants.

As well as can be deciphered, the signatures are: "vedrines; fransoise gautier; le chev de Bassabas; moret; Bastid; J. Lesparre, pretre; Laurisol de delaure; Mauron no^re roy^l.".

Jean and Françoise wrote their will 14 March 1703. This codicil was 10 April 1706. When their will was registered 26 April 1706, it was titled "deceased Jean de Vedrines", quiet confirmation that Jean died soon after signing the codicil.

The cover sheet of the next document is titled, "Act of the opening of the codicil of Jean de VEDRINES Judge and Françoise de GAULTIER, 5 June 1706."

In the afternoon the royal notary went to the home of VEDRINES in Sainte-Livrade, where Françoise GAUTIER, widow, was living. In the presence of Jean BROSSARD, doctor of medicine, her son-in-law; of Izabeau VEDRINES, her daughter and widow of Bernard JACOUBET, Sieur de Nombel; of François de GALIBOT, Sieur de Rousein and of Sieur Antoine FAYDIC bourgeois, her sons-in-law, the widow said that she and her deceased husband had made a codicil on the tenth of the previous April, and outlined its contents. It was brought out and several of the witnesses who had signed it attested to its authenticity. (Sieur de LESPARRE and BASSABAT. Sieurs de MORET, LAURISSOL, and BASTID were absent). It was opened and examined, confirmed and read in the presence of Jean [TREILLER?] garçon; [jean?] and Antoine BOUSSIE, huissier of this town, habitants.

The document is signed by "fransoise gautier; izabeau vedrines; faydic; Le chev de Bassabas; Lesparre, prêtre; Brossard; [__a__er]; [Freylles? Treylles?]; Mauron, no^re roy^l."

The funeral record of Françoise GAUTIER was found by Mlle Bourrachot in 1963: "Demoiselle Françoise GAUTIE, epouse de Jean de VEDRINES, mourut le 7 Mars 1722 a l'age de 85 ans".[8] This allows an approximation of the time of birth of Françoise, 1637 or 1638, keeping in mind, as discussed earlier, that the age stated on a funeral record is often incorrect, sometimes by several years.

Of the marriage just before Lent in February of 1659 were born these VEDRINES-GAUTIER children:

Marguerite VEDRINES
born: 1660, baptized: June 1661
married: Jean BROSSARD, doctor of medicine

Françoise VEDRINES
baptized: June 1661
became an Ursuline nun

Antoine VEDRINES
born: 15 February, 1663
baptized: 17 February 1663
godparents: Antoine REYRE; Catherine GAULTIER

Isabeau VEDRINES
born: 29 March 1665
baptized: 27 Sept. 1667
godparents: Jean ROCHE, bourgeois et marchant of Bordeaux, and Isabeau GAUTIER
died: after August 1717
marriage contract: April 1683, dispensation: 5 July 1683.
married: Bernard JACOUBET de Nombel

Marie VEDRINES
born and baptized: 1 Dec. 1667
godparents: Pierre LACOMBE, bourgeois; and demoiselle Marguerite ROCHE.
a nun at Agen in 1712

Jean Antoine VEDRINES
born and baptized: 15 Dec. 1668
godparents: Antoine VEDRINES and Marguerite VEDRINES, his brother and sister

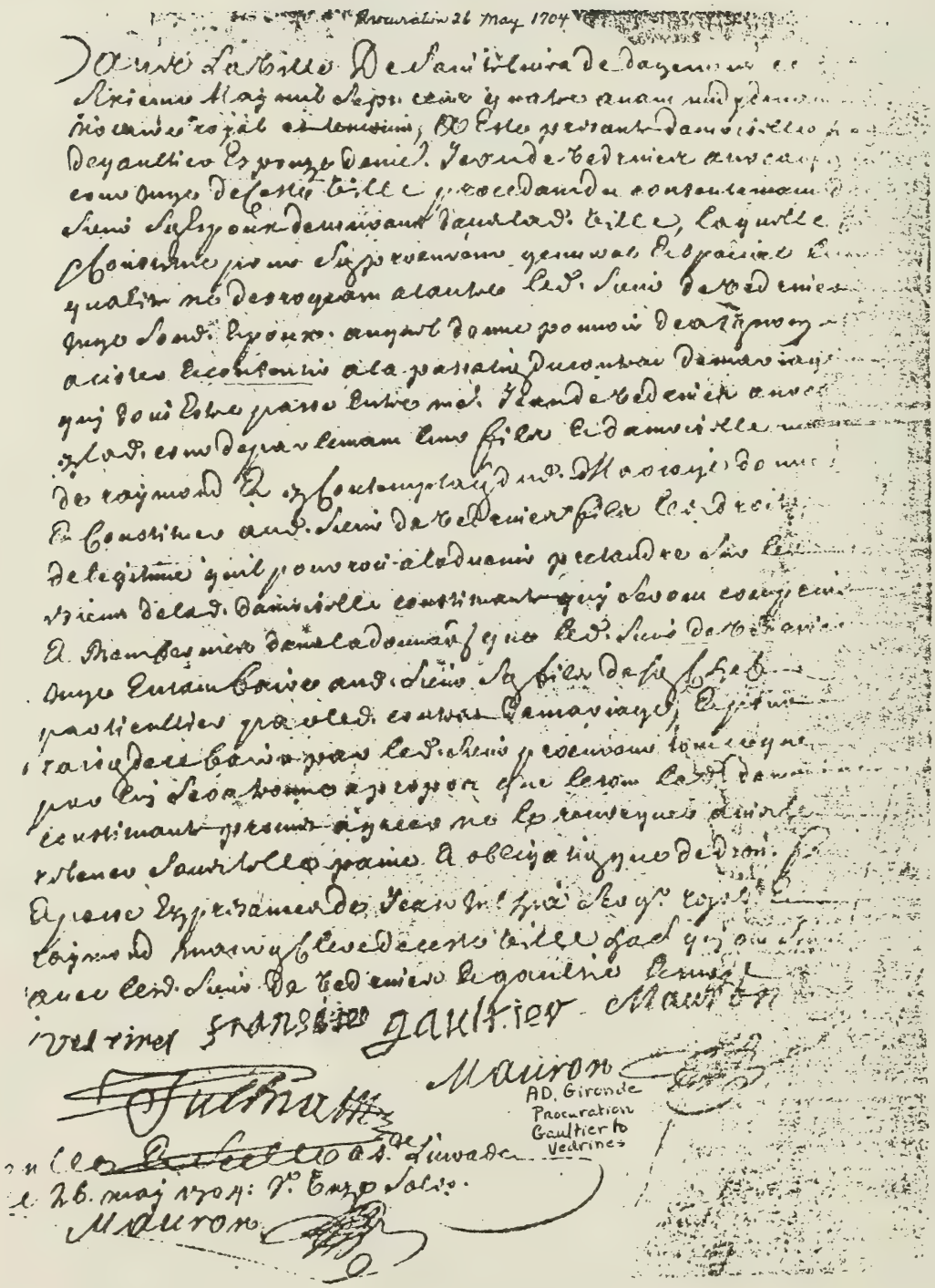
Jean Philippe VEDRINES
born: 3 April 1670
baptized: 5 April 1670
godparents: Philippe de VIGNES, priest and curé; Catherine de ROQUIER, wife of RAYRE

Liberate VEDRINES
born and baptized: 7 May 1671
godparents: Antoine VEDRINES and Françoise VEDRINES, his brother and sister.
married: Francois [GALIBER?] Sr. de [ROUZEIN?]

Anne VEDRINES
born: 17 Sept. 1672
baptized: 18 Sept. 1672
godparents: Antoine VEDRINES and Marguerite VEDRINES, her brother and sister
married: Antoine FAYDIC (FAIDEC)

Jean Géraud VEDRINES
born: 27 Nov. 1673
baptized 30 Nov. 1673

Jean Baptiste VEDRINES
born: circa 1678
marriage dispensation: 2 June 1704 (diocese of Bordeaux and of Agen)
marriage contract: 29 May 1704 (Barsac)
settlement of dowry: 1 August 1704 (Sainte-Livrade)
married: 5 June 1704 to Marie RAYMOND, daughter of Paul RAYMOND and Anne-Beatrix GRATECHAPT (Barsac)
died: probably after 1735 (he is the only surviving son in 1703)



La Procuration
(Translated, pages 100 and 101)

Chapter VIII

Jean Védrines and Marie Raymond

In France in the Spring of 1704, preparations for a wedding were underway.

The young man Jean VEDRINES who would marry Marie RAYMOND was the one surviving male child of a prosperous land-owner and the RAYMONDs could expect him to be heir to all the real property of his father's estate. In that period in history, men with sons were often satisfied to give daughters money, household furnishings, a trousseau, and - for the fortunate ones - a pension, an annual or bi-annual gift of cash. The real estate was more important, and attempts were made to keep it in one unit for the principal heir - even without the strictures of primogeniture. Men with several grown sons often encouraged the ecclesiastical and military services for the younger ones.

In this case, the young man, Jean VEDRINES, born about 1678, was like his father before him the only male heir of his parents' marriage. However, whereas his father seems to have been the only child of the VEDRINES-ROCHE marriage, Jean had had brothers (who had died) as well as several sisters. The girls were all older than he, and were either married or had entered religious life, which meant that the bulk of their portion of the inheritance had already been paid.[1]

Jean VEDRINES was twenty-six years old at the time of his marriage. He had completed his legal studies [at

Toulouse? or perhaps at Bordeaux?] and had been accepted as an avocat (an advocate or counselor-at-law) of the Parlement. He was still a resident of Sainte-Livrade when he traveled to Barsac to claim his bride.

His father could not leave Sainte-Livrade until he and his wife had concluded an important notarial document. She would not make the trip, and her power-of-attorney had to be given to her husband so he could sign the marriage contract, since they were conferring upon their son legal rights on property and possessions of the mother as well as on those of Jean VEDRINES père. By the act signed in the morning of 26 May 1704, Françoise GAUTIER appointed her husband to act for her in this special circumstance. His plans for their male heir accepted, she promised never to attempt to revoke or change the endowment.

The paper, confirmed and sealed by the notary MAURON, was taken by the father on his journey to Barsac. It had to be presented to the notary there so that Jean père could act for both himself and his wife in giving over to the young man his rights, present and future, to certain possessions of his parents. It was read carefully by SERRES, the notary, kept with his other papers, and is now at the Archives Départementales in Bordeaux.[2]

> In the town of Sainte Livrade d'Agenois, this twenty-sixth of May, 1704, before noon, before me royal notary and witnesses, were presented Damoiselle Françoise de GAUTIER wife of Maître Jean de VEDRINES, advocate in the court, judge of this town, proceeding with the consent of Sieur, her husband, living in said town, whom she appoints as her proxy with full power of attorney in one special circumstance not to be confused with another, she gives him the right of assigning, assisting and controlling at the passage of the marriage contract due to be passed between Maître Jean de VEDRINES advocate in the said court of Parlement, their son, and Damoiselle Marie de RAYMOND, and in contemplation of said marriage they give to and confer upon said Sieur de VEDRINES fils the legal rights which he would have in the future claim on the possessions of the said Damoiselle the constituent

which will be contained and enclosed in the endowment which the said Sieur de VEDRINES Judge expects to make to the said Sieur, his son, of his possessions held in his own right, by the said contract of marriage, and by and of this act by the said Sieur procurator all that which is from him was agreed to beforehand as suitable, that the said Damoiselle constituent, present, agrees, and will not revoke it or change it.
Done in the presence of Jean JULHIA royal sergeant, Raymond MAURON, clerk of this town, who signed with the Sieur de VEDRINES and GAULTIE.
vedrines; fransoise gaultier; Mauron; Julhia; Mauron.

The preceding document became an integral part of the marriage contract when it was given over to the notary SERRES upon his arrival at the RAYMOND home to conclude the legal and financial arrangements that preceded marriages between families of means.

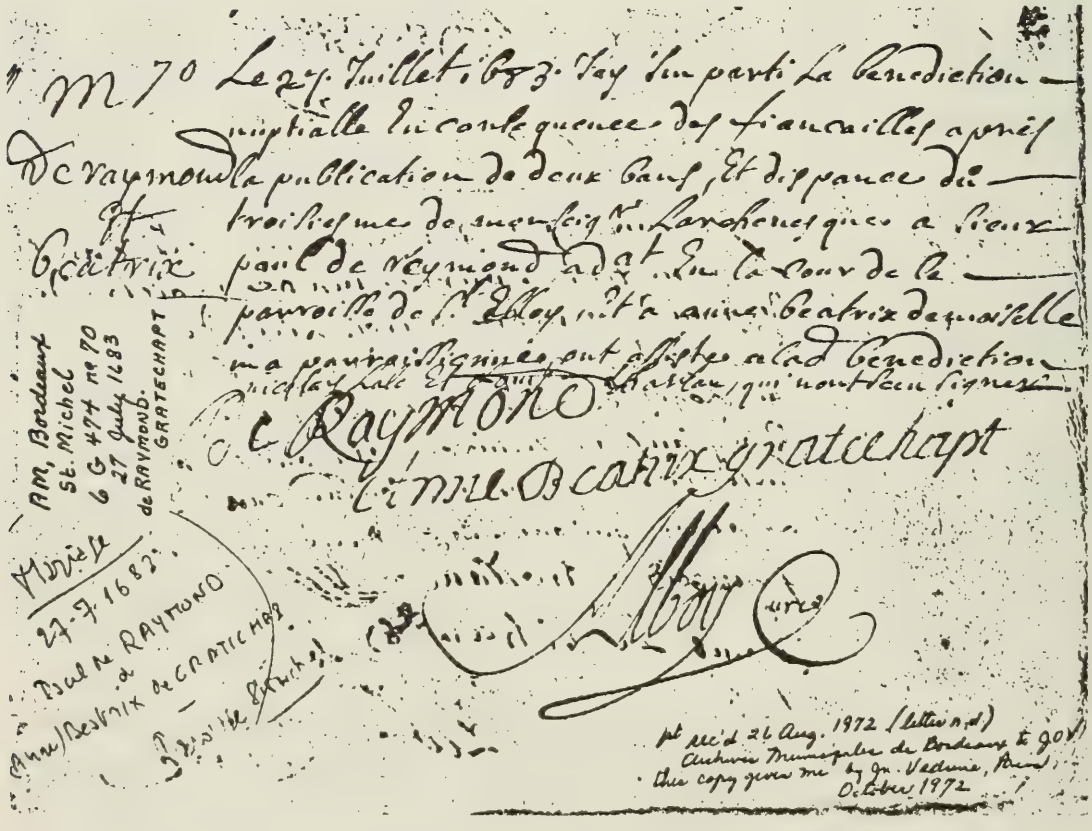
This friend of the family, SERRES, had been picked as the notary to draw up the contract of marriage. The town was the home of Marie's paternal ancestors. Her grandfather, Jean RAYMOND, had had a fief there since 1677,[3] and probably earlier. Her grandmother, Catherine TARTAS, was the daughter of Daniel TARTAS and Jeanne CANTAU. Daniel, mentioned as notary in the Barsac church records 1613-1637, is identified as royal notary and procurer postulant in 1721.[4] Of a notable (although not ennobled) family, they had a virtual monopoly on that area's governmental positions: There were TARTAS as notaries, judges, lawyers, greffiers, prévosts, and so on, since the sixteenth century. Jean de TARTAS was the notary in Barsac in 1533. By 1585, Mathieu de TARTAS was advocat at Parlement at Bordeaux, possibly the same Mathieu de TARTAS listed as a notary from 1578 to 1593. The Daniel who fathered Catherine TARTAS was notary from 1597 to 1650 and might have been his son.[5]

Jean RAYMOND had married Catherine TARTAS on the eighteenth of February 1737, supposedly at Barsac.[6] His parents are not mentioned in the one document found in Bordeaux, and quite likely they were not mentioned on the marriage record. When Jean died in Barsac in October, 1687, his age given on the funeral record seems to be 84

years.[7] The age given presents the possibility that he was the Jean RAYMOND baptized at Sainte-Livrade on 11 December 1600, son of Jean RAYMOND and Catherine FORT.[8]

Jean RAYMOND was neither lawyer nor judge. In 1637, he was greffier ecrivant at la cour des aydes, a scribe and a clerk or registrar of the very important court where all cases in Guyenne concerning taxes were heard and decided. By 1647, he was a registrar or recorder, and by 1684, when he stood as godfather for his granddaughter Marie, he was the chief registrar at the cour des aides.[9] On February 1677, he swore fealty to the king for the noble house and fief called Doisy,[10] which is located between Preignac and Barsac in the department of La Gironde.

Jean RAYMOND and Catherine TARTAS had at least four sons, of whom three are found in the Barsac records: André, baptized 5 October 1647; Jean, baptized 17 April 1656; Pierre, baptized 3 June 1657.[11] Paul RAYMOND, heir to Doisy, married Anne Béatrix GRATECHAPT at the Saint-Michel Church in Bordeaux 27 July 1683.[12]

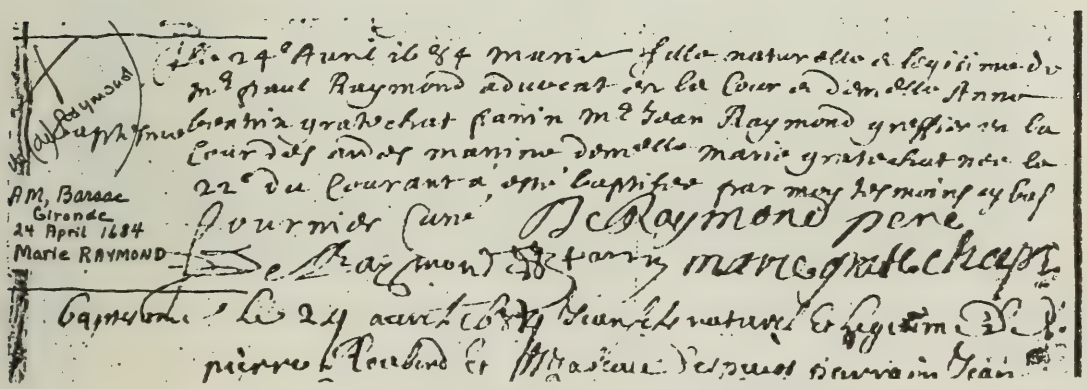


Anne Béatrix was the daughter of Jean GRATECHAPT, bourgeois and merchant of Bordeaux, and Marguerite DORAT, whose contract of marriage is dated 27 March 1641. Marguerite was the daughter of an old Bordeaux couple: Jean DORAT, a municipal official, and Gaillardine AYRAL. Jean GRATECHAPT, who died 18 April 1663, may have been a native of Toulouse. His mother was Claris de JAYOT; his father, Antoine GRATECHAPT is described on the 1641 document as a merchant of Toulouse.[13] Two other children of the GRATECHAPT-DORAT couple were Marie, born circa 1649, and Jacques GRATECHAPT who married a cousin, Jeanne DORAT.

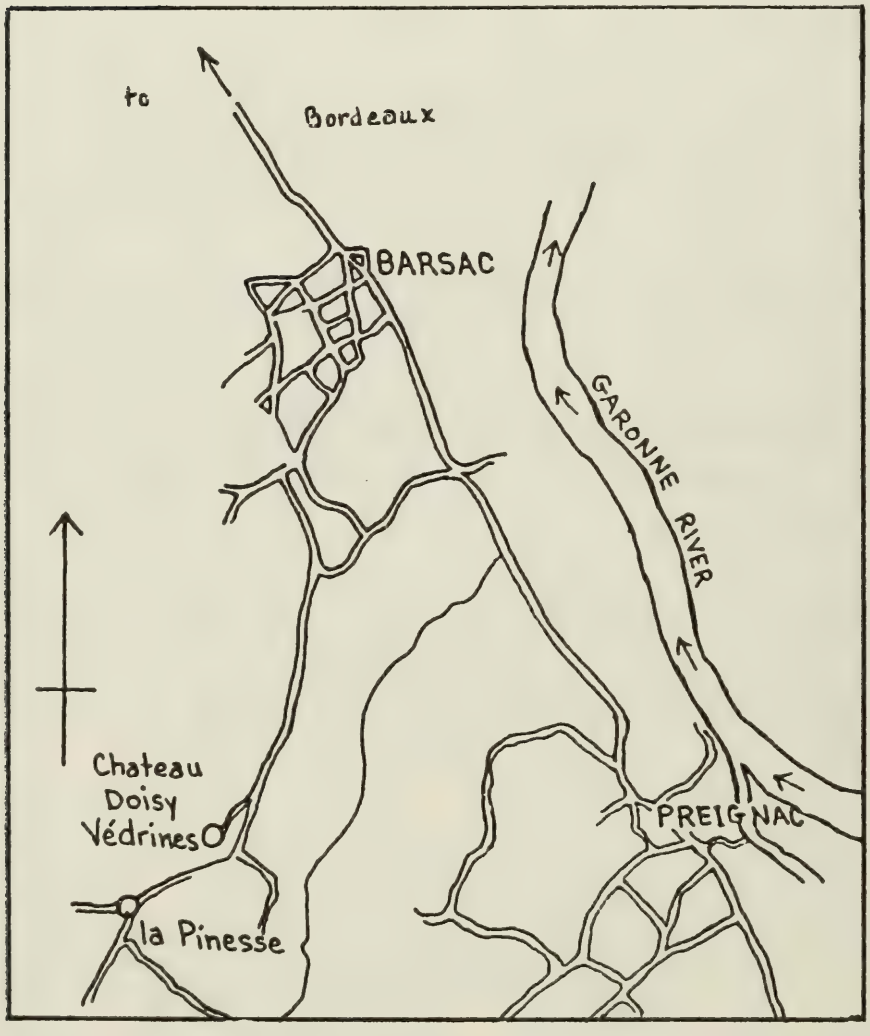
Paul RAYMOND, who married into the GRATECHAPT-DORAT family of Bordeaux, was a resident there in 1683, in the parish of Saint-Eloy. Probably soon after the marriage, he and Anne Béatrix moved to the parish of Saint-Michel and were considered residents of that parish in 1704.

Although the RAYMOND family had a residence in Barsac they spent most of their time at their home in Saint-Michel parish, in the heart of Bordeaux not far from the Garonne River, the same neighborhood where Anne Béatrix had lived as a girl and probably near where her maternal grandparents, Jean DORAT and Gaillardine AYRAL, had lived.

The home in the rural area of Barsac must have been used seasonally, and was surely used when the recurring plagues were rampant in the cities. It is in Barsac that Paul and Anne Béatrix baptized their daughter Marie RAYMOND, 24 April 1684.[14]


AM, Barsac Gironde 24 April 1684 Marie RAYMOND

Le 24e Avril 1684 Marie fille naturelle et legitime du
Me paul Raymond advocat en la Cour et de dem^elle Anne
beatrix gratechat parrin Me Jean Raymond greffier en la
Cour des aides marrinne dem^elle Marie gratechat nee la
22e du Courant a esté baptisee par moy Tesmoins enbas
fourmier Curé de Raymond pere
de Raymond parin marie gratechapt



Marie grew up in Bordeaux, a parishioner of Saint-Michel, but she chose for her nuptial ceremony the Barsac church.

Paul RAYMOND, the father of Marie, had been educated as a lawyer, and he assuredly gave much thought to the terms of his daughter's marriage contract. The father of the prospective bridegroom Jean VEDRINES would be planning carefully, too, since he was counselor-at-law, as well as a municipal judge.

Paul had one son to carry on his name. He had only the two daughters, Marie Anne and Marie, and he was a well-to-do proprietor, holding especially valuable vineyards in the Bordelais. Both real-estate and money would be involved in the transaction and most probably the two fathers had already discussed the various endowments they would make when the time came for the marriage contract.

Marie RAYMOND had reached the age of twenty years on April twenty-fourth, and her marriage would take place six weeks later. Her mother, Anne Béatrix GRATECHAPT, had to leave her preferred residence in Bordeaux to supervise preparations at the RAYMOND home in Barsac, where the groom's family would arrive several days before the wedding.

Chateau Doisy
The Raymond home near Barsac

Whether this home was the one on the RAYMOND fief called Doisy[15] or if it was a house in the town of Barsac is not known. But since two vignerons were called in as witnesses, the meeting could have taken place on the domaine Doisy, where very fine wine has been produced for centuries. It seems reasonable to suppose that if the gathering was within the town itself, some of the municipal officers would have participated, although perhaps the two fathers preferred having two illiterate vinegrowers - trusted workers, perhaps, who would not make gossip of the transaction. It may be that those two, Jean REAU and Jean PASCALE, were called in only to watch the signing on 29 May 1704. Only three days before, the groom's father had left Sainte-Livrade, after signing that necessary notarial document. River travel was surely the most comfortable, and since the Lot River flowed into the Garonne and both flowed westward to Barsac, it was the swiftest way to make the trip. Two of the groom's brothers-in-law had come, too, from Sainte-Livrade, as advisors and assistants. Their wives must have stayed behind with their mother, Françoise GAUTIER, for they are not mentioned in any of the Barsac records, and none of their signatures appear. Were Marie and her mother relieved that only the men of the VEDRINES family made the trip?

So the meeting began, with advisors and the young couple, Monsieur and Madame RAYMOND, and Monsieur Jean VEDRINES père. Because one of the most useful sources for knowledge--both historical and genealogical--about another, earlier generation is any marriage contract, a full translation of this one has been made. As is usually the case, parents of the couple are named and the relationship of those assisting is given.

The document is in the minutes of SERRES, notary of Barsac, deposited in the Archives Départementales de la Gironde in Bordeaux:[16]

> In the name of God may all know that today the twenty-ninth of May one thousand seven hundred four, in the afternoon, before me royal notary in the royal prévot's jurisdiction of Barsac in Guyenne, undersigned, in presence of the witnesses below named, were present in person

Maître Jean de VEDERINES advocate in the court of Parlement, natural and legitimate son of the other Maître Jean de VEDRINES also advocate in the court of Parlement and judge of Sainte-Livrade in Agenois and demoiselle Françoise GAULTIE his mother and father proceeding by the authorization of said Sieur de VEDERINES his father who for the present act gave the authority to the said Sieur his son and with the advice and assistance of Sieur François GAULEBER, Sieur de ROSEN and Sieur Anthoine de FEIDIT, his brothers-in-law, habitans of said town of Sainte-Livrade for one part, and

Demoiselle Marie de RAYMOND, natural and legitimate daughter of Maître Paul RAYMOND, advocate in the court and of Demoiselle Béatrix de GRATECHAPT also her mother and father present, and proceeding under their authority and with the advice and assistance of Demoiselle Marie GRATECHAPT wife of Sieur George ALAUX, her aunt, and also of Demoiselle Blanche GRATECHAPT wife of Guillaume ROBOREL advocate in the court and procurator of the king of this prévot, her first cousin, and Demoiselle Marie Anne de RAYMOND, her sister, habitant of the city of Bordeaux, parish of Saint-Michel, for the other.

Between which parties, by their free will and wish have made the pact and clauses of marriage in the form and manner which follows:

First, Sieur de VEDERINES and Demoiselle de RAYMOND promise to take each other for man and wife and to solemnize their union in the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony before our Holy Mother the Church, Roman Catholic and Apostolic, when either one requests it or when so requested by any of their relatives and friends, under the penalty of all expenses and damages.

For the marriage settlement of his son: after the death of said Sieur his father, and not sooner, the Sieur VEDRINES future spouse accepts all that makes up the usufruct which Sieur VEDERINES pere bequeathed to his wife in case she survives him as is written in their mutual testament, but until then Sieur de VEDERINES pere is held to paying him an annual pension of 800 livres, in two payments - at Christmas and at Easter; and more, the said future spouses will divide by halves the revenues from the goods that are given, and further, the said Sieur VEDERINES pere gives over to his son the sum of 4,000 livres in silver, which the Sr. VEDERINES fils received before those present the sum of 400 livres and 32 Louis d'or in cash which the said Sr. VEDERINES fils took in view of those present; and the sum of 1600 livres received and taken by Sr. RAYMOND also in sight of those present; the sum of 1600 livres and 128 Louis d'or also in cash making the sum of _____ livres which Sr. RAYMOND counted and took, and the sum of 2,000 livres that remains Sr. de VEDERINE promised to pay to Sr. RAYMOND in [one?] month, it being understood between the parties that Sr. de RAYMOND received the said sums [for as much more?] to free the possessions which are those that the damoiselle his wife gave on this act; and in consequence the sum received and to be received for all the said possessions at the donation and will be held to return this in case said Sr. VEDERINES fils should die without children of their marriage, and [if heirs do result?], Sr. de RAYMOND is held to paying annually to the said spouses the interest on the sums received "au dernier vingt" _____ also was appointed Sr. VEDERINES père - acting with the power of attorney conferred by Demoiselle de GAULTIER his wife according to the procuration of the twenty-sixth of the current month, written by MAURON notary, confirmed and sealed by MAURON, which act will remain in this notarial jurisdiction - who having power of attorney gave over to the

future husband his present and future legal rights on the possessions which settlement was all made, included, and enclosed in the appointment made by Sr. VEDERINES père; according to the part by the said procuration, in case Sr. VEDERINES, future husband, dies without legitimate heirs, the said Sr. VEDERINES père substitutes his daughters, sisters of the future groom, or their representatives [as heirs] for [equal shares ?] of the possessions given.

The Sr. de VEDERINES, future groom, acknowledges in favor of said Demoiselle de RAYMOND future bride for the [valuables and estates? gains and income?] on her possessions the sum of 1,000 livres; and the future spouses give to one another, mutually, the augmentation that these diverse funds will gain, from the pre-deceased the sum of 3,000 livres and moreover _____ half of the acquisitions and acquired real estate, the same amount to go to the children issuing from their marriage; and if there are no children, each will dispose of it according to his pleasure and will, and for the care of the principle or estate, the parties and

[Here is an obvious gap]

to help [to support the legal requirements?] those that Sieur de RAYMOND and the said Demoiselle GRATECHAPT father and mother of the said Demoiselle the future bride have granted and given as dowry to their said daughter to pass on to the future groom, coming from the said Demoiselle GRATECHAT who acts with the authority of the will and agreement of said Sr. RAYMOND her husband, and this by pure and simple deed of gift, that is: All and each of their possessions, movable and immovable, present and future, to the said Demoiselle Marie de RAYMOND future bride accepting, annulling forever the legitimate rights that the said Demoiselle Marie Anne RAYMOND their other daughter could have at present or in the

future; and again _____ the said Sr. de RAYMOND and the said Demoiselle de GRATECHAT on the said possessions given, the sum of 1,000 livres to use according to their pleasure and free wish; to _____ the said possessions given by the said future spouses after the death of said Sieur and Demoiselle the grantors will be always _____ until the said death of those named. The said future spouses, their family _____ give to them and _____ when even only verbally. And in case of separation the said Sr. RAYMOND and the said Demoiselle GRATECHAT will be _____ of the future spouses of an annual pension of 600 livres payable in two terms: at Christmas and at Easter of each year.

It is also arranged that the said Sr. VEDERINES père who approves the said marriage gives to the said Sieur de VEDERINES, future groom, his son, by pure and simple deed of gift made in preparation of said present marriage all the property of his estate which will consist of three adjoining farms called Pau, Verdier, and las Miguels, with their buildings, fences, and equipment (depandances), and the house in which he lives in the said town of Sainte-Livrade with its furnishings, the stable, and the oven-house which is separate.

Each of the grantors have put under obligation all and each one of their possessions movable and immovable, present and future, which will be upheld by the strict letter of the law, renouncing all other ways and remedies to the contrary, [with their promise?] and oath, done at Barsac in the home of Sieur RAYMOND, in the presence of Jean REAU and Jean PASCALE cultivators of grape vines, inhabitants of Barsac, witnesses to the summons who declared they did not know how to sign when called upon, the contracting parties and the grantors of the dowry signed with the relatives who assisted, and me.

vedrines pere vedrines futeur epoux
de Raymond pere marie de raymond
Galiber beatrix
marie gratechapt faydic gratechapt
Gratechapt de roborel deraymond
marianne remond
Serres No^tre Royal

The bride-to-be had ladies related to her as her assistants.

Blanche GRATECHAPT was the daughter of Marie's uncle, Jacques (or Jean) and his wife Jeanne DORAT. Blanche had married, 18 March 1696, Guillaume ROBEREL, advocat at the court, procureur of the king for the jurisdiction of Barsac. The ROBOREL name appears in Barsac as early as the 1580's. Guillaume was the son of Jean ROBOREL and Anne TOULON, also of Barsac.[17] Blanche's brother Martial GRATECHAPT, born in Bordeaux in 1668, died in 1692 "au service du Roi"; he had made Blanche his heir.[18]

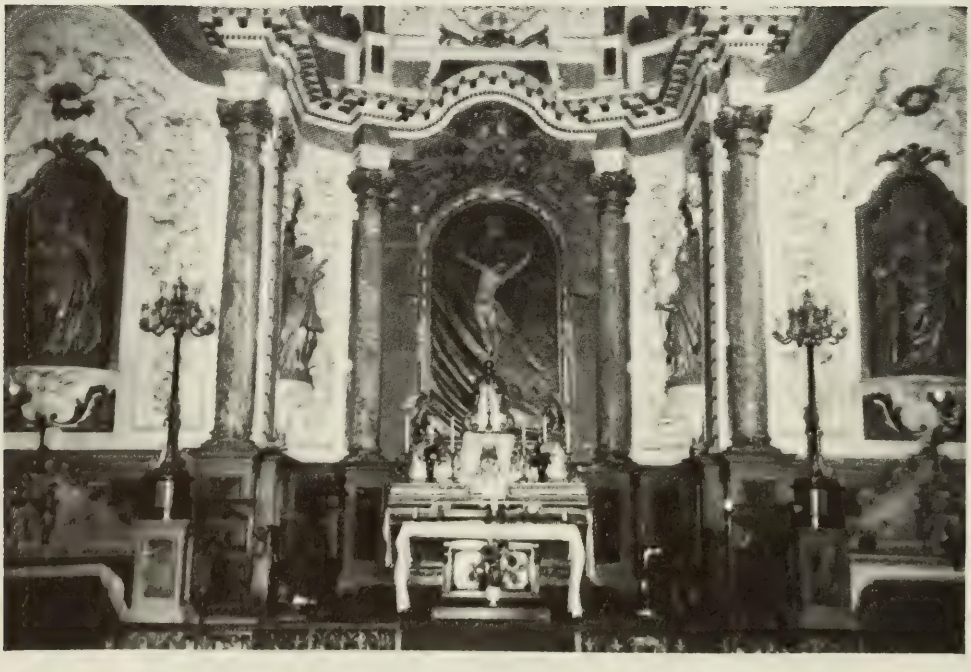
Marie GRATECHAPT, an aunt, had married George ALAUX when she was twenty-seven years old. The record of their engagement (fiansailles) at Saint-Michel parish in Bordeaux is dated 23 May 1676, the same date as their marriage contract. The marriage took place on 25 July of that year. George ALAUX, bourgeois, merchant, was born about 1647.[19] He must have been related to, and possibly even a son of, George ALAUX, born about 1605, the advocate in Parlement and resident of Sainte-Livrade in 1683 who had given that interesting deposition during the proceedings for dispensation for the JACOUBET-VEDRINES marriage.[20]

The other relative of the bride was her sister, Marie Anne RAYMOND, probably younger and still unmarried in 1704. One wonders why that phrase in the contract seems to annul all her rights to inheritance from her parents. The sentence is difficult to read: "---par donation pure et simple faite entre vifs scavoir est tous et --- chacuns Leurs biens meubles et immeubles, presant et advenir, La dit demle Marie Raymond future Espouse acceptante, rescent toutes [fois? fait?] Le droit de legitime que la dt dem^le Marie Anne Raymond Leur autre fille [peut pretendre?] a presante et a ladvenir..." but even with the

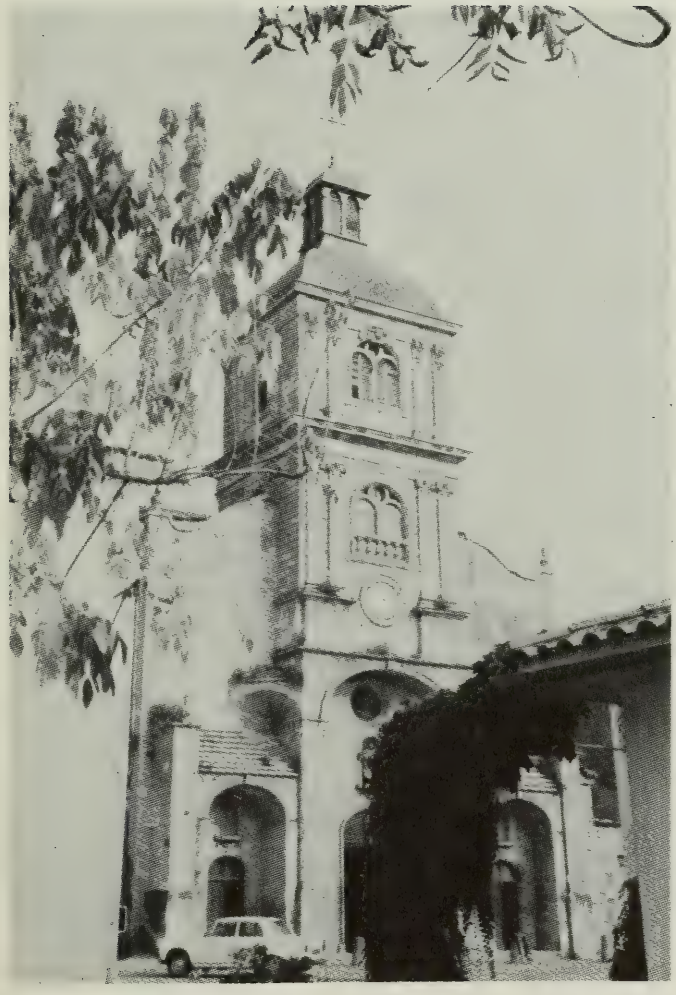
letters not deciphered, the meaning seems clear. Perhaps Marie Anne was entering a convent, where they had already presented a dowry or had arranged an annuity? Marie Anne could hardly have been an older sister already provided for; her parents had not been married a full year when Marie was born. Possibly only the mother's estate is meant, although the possessive pronoun leurs is used. Perhaps she would receive her share from their father's estate, the major part of which was undoubtedly due to go to their brother Jean.

It is a mystery why the brother Jean is not mentioned in the marriage contract nor in the marriage record. A year later, this son of Paul RAYMOND was practicing law in nearby Bordeaux.[21]

Before receiving the Sacrament of Matrimony, much other paperwork had to be done. Besides the Procuration (Power-of-Attorney) the groom's parents had seen to on May 26 and the marriage contract of May 29, the intent to marry had to be proclaimed in the home parishes of the bride and of the groom. There was time for only one announcement instead of the usual three, so they had to apply to two separate bishops to be dispensed of the last two banns. Each of these dispensations had to certified in writing, and that certificate presented to the priest who would perform the marriage.

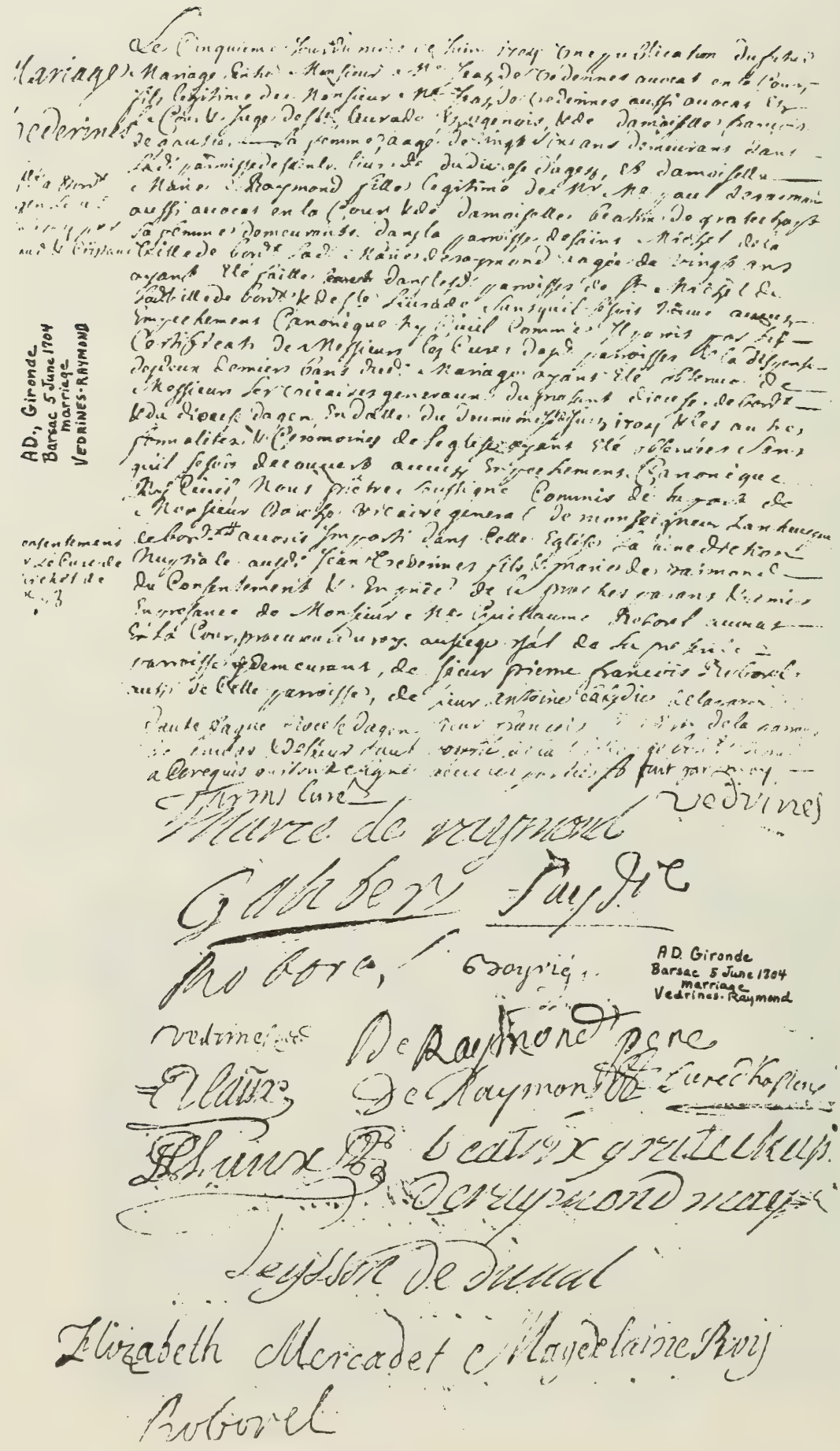


Main altar at Barsac Church



Somehow all papers were ready in time for the fifth of June, and Jean Baptiste VEDRINES and Marie RAYMOND were joined in holy matrimony:[22]

> Marriage Vederines
>
> The fifth day of June 1704, [after] the publication [of one bann] of the future marriage between
> Monsieur Maître Jean de VEDRINES advocate in the court, legitimate son of Monsieur Maître Jean de VEDRINES also advocate in the court and judge of Sainte-Livrade in Agenois and of damoiselle Françoise de GAUTIER his wife, aged twenty-six years, resident of the said



AD., Gironde
Barsac 5 June 1704
marriage
VEDRINES-RAYMOND

AD. Gironde
Barsac 5 June 1704
marriage
Vedrines-Raymond

[Marginal note: __lle. at Bordeaux ___ Agen the 2nd (June) 1704 by __naud and ___issaux]

parish of Sainte-Livrade, diocese of Agen, and demoiselle Marie de RAYMOND legitimate daughter of Monsieur Maître Paul de RAIMOND also advocate in the court and of damoiselle Beatrix de GRATECHAPT his wife living in the parish of Saint-Michel of the city of Bordeaux, the said Marie de RAYMOND aged twenty years.

[That one bann] has been made in the parish of Saint-Michel, of the city of Bordeaux, and of Sainte-Livrade without there having been found any canonical or civil impediment as is shown by the certificates of Messieurs the curés of said parishes

and having obtained from Messieurs the vicaires and supérieurs généraux of this diocese of Bordeaux and of the diocese of Agen, dated the second of June 1704, and the other formalities and ceremonies of the Church having been accomplished without there having been discovered any impediment of either canon law or civil law,

We, undersigned priest, appointed by [or acting for] Monsieur DAUCHE vicaire général for Monseigneur the Archbishop of Bordeaux, have

[Marginal note: consent of __ the cure of __ Michel of (Bordeaux)]

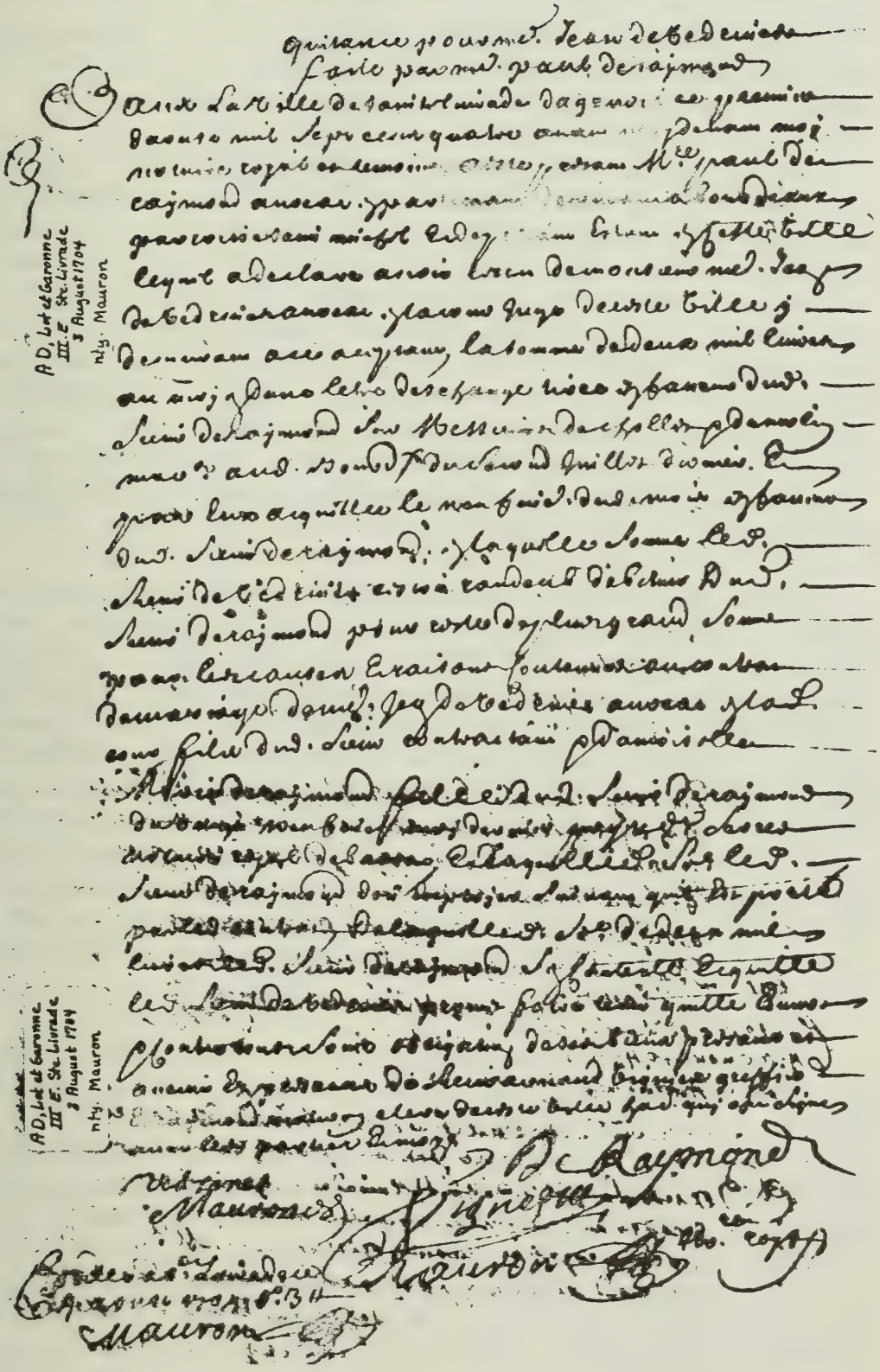
given in this church the Nuptial Blessing to the said Jean VEDRINES fils and Marie de RAIMOND by the consent and in the presence of the close relatives and friends. In presence of Monsieur Maître Guillaume ROBOREL advocate in the court, representative of the king in the siège royal of the present parish where he is resident; of Sieur Pierre François ROBOREL, also of this parish; of Sieur Antoine FAYDIC of the parish of Autefague [Hautefage, L-et-G], diocese of Agen; Sieur François GALIBERT of the parish of Sembas [L-et-G]; and of Sieur Paul BOYRIE of the city of Bordeaux; witnesses to this as re-

quired, who have signed with the parties, and done by me.

Tartas Cure vedrines
marie de raymond
Galiber faydic
Roborel Boyrie
vedrines pere DeRaymond pere
Alaux DeRaymond cure d'hostens
PAlaux beatrix gratechapt
Leysson de [dunal?] deraymond mere
Elizabeth Mercadet Magdelaine Roy
Roborel

Most of these people named are identified in the preceding discussion. For the others, no serious search has been made. LEYSSON de [DUNAL ?] has not been seen elsewhere. Elisabeth MERCADET and Magdelaine ROY sign simply and clearly like schoolgirls, and perhaps they were. The curé DE RAYMOND signs very much like Paul DE RAYMOND père; he must be Pierre, brother of Paul.[23] The ROBOREL signatures are similar. One of them must be Guillaume, the husband of Blanche GRATECHAPT; the other is Pierre François ROBOREL. The ALAUX signatures are very different. One looks like P written over the A. If so, the other would be George, husband of Marie GRATECHAPT. The cure's signature is TARTAS. Possibly he is Jean TARTAS who was made curé in 1692, replacing his maternal uncle Estienne FOURNIER who became canon in Bordeaux as successor to "his maternal uncle Jacques d'ALLAINE".[24] Etienne (cure, 1656, Barsac) was brother of Simone FOURNIER, wife of Pierre TARTAS.[25] An interesting unknown is Paul BOYRIE of Bordeaux, since it is thought that it was a BOYRIE family that acquired Chateau Doisy-Védrines about 1835-1840.[26]

Just over two months after the marriage, Paul RAYMOND traveled to Sainte-Livrade to see his son-in-law's family and to receive from the groom's father the final payment due. They went together to the Notary MAURON, who recorded the quittance. With everything settled, the release was signed on the morning of 1 August 1704 in Sainte-Livrade, by the two fathers, Jean VEDRINES and Paul RAYMOND, by the witnesses Arnaud VIGNES, greffier, and Raymond MAURON, clerk, and by the Notary MAURON.[27]



La Quittance

There were surely visits to the RAYMOND relatives in Barsac, probably when en route to or from Bordeaux for visits to the GRATECHAPT connections and for legal or business affairs. Records beginning the following year offer the first indication that the young couple was established as part of the Sainte-Livrade community.

All records that have been found for the baptisms of the children of the VEDRINES-RAYMOND marriage are in the registers of the Catholic Church of Saint-Livrade. A son Pierre was born there in June and baptized less than two weeks later, the twenty-fourth of June, 1707.[28] His godmother was a Marguerite VEDRINES, but which one is not known. The first to come to mind is the one who was godchild of Marguerite ROCHE in 1660. Another is the infant Pierre's aunt, also born in 1660. But Marguerite was a popular name, and it is more likely that it was a younger relative. The handwriting seems to be that of a young girl.

One who signs as witness to the baptism is the baby's cousin Isabeau JACOUBET, daughter of the widowed Isabeau VEDRINES and Bernard JACOUBET. Another signs Bassabat, very probably Francois-Martial de LARTIGUE, chevalier de Bassabat, who had married in 1701 a cousin of baby Pierre's grandfather Jean VEDRINES, Anne de BILLION, daughter of noble Pierre de BILLION, seigneur de Ponsalaon and of damoiselle Esther de GERVAZY. LARTIGUE was probably widowed by then, and perhaps he was there to be near the young Isabeau JACOUBET. They did marry, in 1709, and they had eight children. There had been no children of his marriage to Anne de BILLION.[29]

Jean and Marie's daughter Marie VEDRINES, baptized 21 June 1708, was born just a year after her brother Pierre. She had a sister baptized in March of 1711, also given the name Marie.[30] It is possible that the first Marie had died, but it is also possible that both girls were given the same name at baptism. Either the Marie who was nineteen years old, or the Marie who was not yet seventeen, one of these married Jean FRAISSENGUES on 15 October 1727. There were at least six FRAISSENGUES children born.[31]

In between the two Maries, Jean VEDRINES and Marie RAYMOND had a son who was given the name François at his baptism, 14 December 1709.[32]

Jean Baptiste VEDRINES was born 17 May 1712,[33] probably at Lapèze. This son of the Jean VEDRINES and Marie RAYMOND marriage was the one who entered military service as so many younger sons did. As a cadet, Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES was sent to Louisiana about the time of the French expedition against the Chickasaw Indians[34] -- and stayed to found a family. The name Lapaise identified him then; it continues today to identify his descendants.

The first of September 1716 was the date of birth of the last known child of that 1704 marriage. Guillaume VEDRINES was baptized at Sainte-Livrade six days later, having as godparents Guillaume REYRE and Anne VEDRINES.[35]

That Autumn, Jean VEDRINES was in Bordeaux. Marie RAYMOND may not have accompanied him on this trip since their baby was only three months old. However, she very probably had a wet-nurse for the infant. It is reasonable to assume that the first children were fed in this way since their births occurred so close together.[36]

Jean VEDRINES, now about thirty-eight years old, had been called to Bordeaux by the King's representative to take the oath of fidelity to the Duke of Guyenne, now King Louis XV, who reigned from 1715 to 1774. It was necessary to reaffirm the oath of fidelity to the fief Doisy in the name of his wife:[37]

> The Chevaliers, High Court Judges, Treasurers of France, Treasury Councilors, Judges of the King's domain, and primary Superintendents in the Duchy of Guyenne: to all those who see this letter, greetings! We let you know that by request of the King's Procurator has come before us
> Jean Baptiste VEDRINES, Court attorney, in the name and as Spouse of demoiselle Marie RAYMOND his wife in virtue of the Chancelor's letter dated the 5th of this month, signed by Councilor DALLENET and sealed; assisted by Master Claude DAVID his attorney; before the aforementioned royal Procurator, the said Jean VEDRINES (in said name) bare headed, on both knees, without cincture, sword or spurs, hands folded, made and rendered at the office

LES CHEVALIERS, PRESIDENS, TRESORIERS DE FRANCE, Generaux de Finances, Juges du Domaine du Roy & Grands Voyers en la Generalité de Guyenne : A tous ceux qui ces présentes Lettres verront, Salut. Sçavoir faisons, qu'à la Requête du Procureur du Roy s'est presenté pardevant Nous *Jean Baptiste Vedrines avocat en la Cour au nom et comme mary de demoiselle marie Raymond son épouse* [illegible]

AN, Paris
P535[t] xlvi
Hommage
7 December 1716

en consequence des Lettres de la Chancellerie dattées du *Cinq du present mois* signées par le Conseil *Dalleret* & scellées ; assisté de Me. *Claude David* son Procureur, lequel en présence dudit Procureur du Roy, étant ledit *Sr. Vedrines aud. nom* tête nuë, les deux genoux à terre, sans ceinture, épée ny éperons, tenant les mains jointes, a fait & rendu au Bureau les Foy, Hommage & Serment de fidelité qu'il doit, & est tenu de faire au Roy nôtre Sire LOUIS XV. Roy de France & de Navarre à present regnant, pour raison de *la maison et fief noble appellée de Doizic* [illegible]

gift of
Jean Védrine
Paris
13 March 1972

appartenances & dépendances, situé *dans la paroisse de Baujac* [illegible] *haute guyenne* relevant de Sa Majesté à cause *de son Duché de guienne* Et a juré sur les Saints Evangiles d'être bon & fidèle Sujet & Vassal du Roy, ainsi qu'il est porté dans les Chapitres de fidelité, [illegible] & de faire & payer tous les Droits & Devoirs Seigneuriaux qui pourroient être dûs, même les [illegible] depuis le jour de la Saisie feodale, si aucune a été faite [illegible] ledit Vassal a été par nous investy [illegible] à la charge d'en fournir son aveu & dénombrement dans les quarante jours prescrits par l'Ordonnance ; luy faisant main-levée pour l'avenir des fruits desdits biens saisis, faute d'hommage non rendu, sans préjudice des Lods & Ventes, Redevances & autres Droits & Devoirs Seigneuriaux. Fait à Bordeaux au Bureau du Domaine du Roy en Guyenne, le *septiesme decembre mille sept cent seize* [illegible]

Delaubanes, Tillault [illegible]

[illegible]

xlvi [illegible]

vedrines homage au dit nom David

ARCHIVES NATIONALES [illegible] P 535[t] xvi v° page 29

the loyalty, Homage, and oath of fidelity which he owes and has come to render to the King our Sovereign Louis XV, King of France and Navarre now reigning, for right of the Noble house and fief, named de Doizic, properties and buildings, located in the parish of Barsac in the jurisdiction of Guienne a holding of His Majesty who is Duke of Guienne. And after having promised and taken oath on the Holy Gospel that he is a good and loyal Subject and Vassal of the King, as is specified in the old and new chapters of loyalty, and to accept all the duties proper for all his Majesty's Vassals, to pay the Sovereign's charges and services which could be due even on the profits accrued by the fief since the day of the feudal seizure, if this has been done. Aware of those obligations this Vassal has been endowed with the said noble house and fief, with the obligation to furnish assent and inventory within the forty days specified by the Ordinance; have restored to him what can come in revenues from the said seized goods [except if hommage is not rendered?], without prejudicing the fees and charges and other Seignorial duties and services. Done at Bordeaux at the Office of the King's Domaines of Guyenne,
the seventh December one thousand seven hundred sixteen. Delachabane; T_11_aut; DeMoytie; Daly; des Innocents; de _oya__;

Manques vedrines homage
procureur du roi au dit nom
David

It is not clear why the oath of fealty had to be taken at that time. The "maison noble et fief" is the same one that Marie RAYMOND's father and grandfather had held under Louis XIV, who reigned 1643-1715. Possibly it had recently become Marie's. Probably after Louis XV inherited the throne at his great-grandfather's death on 1 September 1715, it was necessary to renew the pledge to the new ruler of France.

The baptisms of their children show that Jean and Marie resided in Sainte-Livrade, and records of some of their grandchildren's baptisms mention that they still lived there in the 1730's. Yet surely they spent some time in Barsac, and needed to go there even more after the fief Doisy became their Doisy-Védrines. Possibly they stayed at the chateau, which still stands between Barsac and Preignac, about 38 kilometers east of Bordeaux, a short distance from the Garonne River.

Barsac

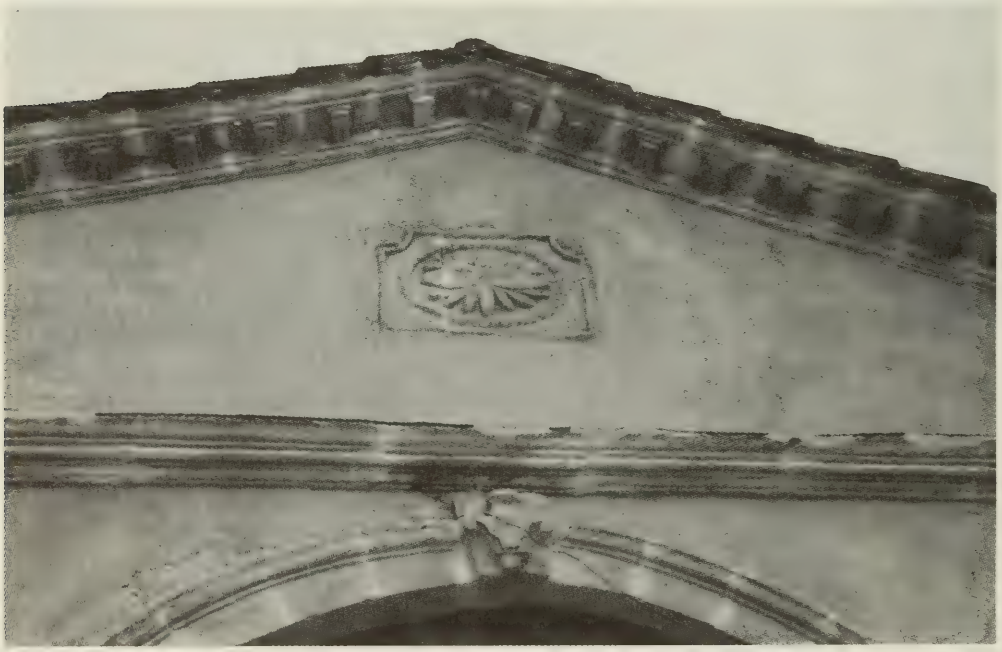
one narrow street

The Chateau Doisy-Védrines

The manor-house is a simple one if compared to the grand ones on other properties but its very simplicity makes it somehow more plausible as a residence of the families of this study. According to the architectural advisors who assisted the owners in 1972 to modernize its interior while preserving its character, it is basically late fifteenth century, with additions such as door moldings added in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. A new roof and other repairs were made circa 1840. At some time in the past, probably in the seventeenth or early eighteenth century, the floor was raised. This caused an earlier doorway to appear less than four feet high. During restoration traces of a used fireplace were found below the present ground level.[38]

No one has been able to find out which proprietor commissioned changes between 1650 and 1750 but those dates would cover its ownership by the RAYMONDs and Jean VEDRINES, père. There is a glass pane in one of the front windows that has a signature, "Mme Vedrines", scratched into it. It must be Marie RAYMOND's. Probably before her marriage, Marie RAYMOND practiced the name she would have. A young girl in love would have done it so naturally.

The barns for the sheep are of stone, as are the barns for the production and storage of the wine. Of special interest to us in 1972 was the stone above the entrance to the large main barn where the casks of wine are kept. On it is carved a flower, a daisy, called la



marguerite in French. Marguerite is the name of the wife of the earliest known ancestor of the Louisiana VIDRINES. Only after several romantic fantasies was it discovered that Doisy had been a RAYMOND property before it was VEDRINES': and the daisy was only a daisy.

On the chateau property is one of the vineyards that produce the several highly esteemed sauternes of that very limited and special region of the Bordelais. In mid-October, the white grapes of Doisy-Védrines stretched across the fields behind the house. They had nearly reached the stage of pourriture-noble, the growth of a special mold on the fully ripened grape which is considered responsible for the particularly fine flavor of the sauterne whose name is "Chateau Doisy-Védrines".[39]

Within this generation the chateau has begun producing two other wines: a dry red wine called "La Tour Védrines", named for the chateau's round tower, and a white Bordeaux wine called, in honor of the former proprietor, "Chevalier de Védrines" - the name still used in speaking of him in that area. "Le grand enclos de Védrines a été, de temps immemorial, la propriété des Chevaliers de Védrines. . ."[40]

Doisy-Védrines
and close-up
of la Tour

GRAND VIN
CHATEAU LA TOUR VÉDRINES
1970
STE CIV. IM. CH. DOISY-VEDRINES
CASTÉJA, PROPRIÉTAIRE
BARSAC
APPELLATION BORDEAUX CONTROLÉE
MIS EN BOUTEILLES AU CHATEAU
IMPRIMÉ EN FRANCE
PRODUCE OF FRANCE
DÉPOSÉ

PRODUCE OF FRANCE
CHEVALIER DE VÉDRINES
SAUVIGNON
750 ml. (25,4 FL. OZ.)
WHITE BORDEAUX WINE
ALCOHOL 12 % BY VOLUME
WHITE BORDEAUX WINE
BORDEAUX
APPELLATION BORDEAUX CONTROLÉE
MIS EN BOUTEILLES PAR C.V.S.O. NÉGOCIANT A CARIGNAN DE BORDEAUX
IMPORTED BY MOSSWOOD WINE COMPANY, NEW YORK, N.Y

To summarize:

The children of that 5 June 1704 marriage between Jean Baptiste VEDRINES and Marie de RAYMOND are listed:

Pierre	born: 16th, baptized: 24 June 1707 married: 10 March 1735, at Preignac (Gironde) to Marie PINSAN died: 2 November 1773, age 65, at the quartier called Védrines, buried at Barsac
Marie	baptized: 21 June 1708 (see note to her sister Marie below)
François	baptized: 14 December 1709 made his vows in the Benedictine order 9 September 1739 died: 8 October 1756, probably at Villemagne (Herault)
Marie	baptized: 1 March 1711 (either she or her sister Marie married in Sainte-Livrade, 15 October 1727, Jean FRAISSENGUES)
Jean Baptiste Lapaise	born: 17th, baptized: 18 May 1712 godparents were: Jean Baptiste VEDRINES and Marie VEDRINES, a religious, represented by Madeleine de GALIBOT. Two Jean DESPERES signatures appear. married: 10 October 1758 at St. Anne de Fort Chartres, Illinois, to Elizabeth TISSERAN de Moncharvaux died: 16 January 1788, buried: 17th at Opelousas, Louisiana
Guillaume	born: 1st, baptized: 7 September 1716 godparents: Guillaume REYRE and Anne VEDRINES made his vows as a Benedictine 23 September 1735 died: 7 August 1788 at Bordeaux

Along the lane "chemin de Védrines"

The buildings of the Chateau Doisy-
Védrines nearest "chemin de Védrines"

François VEDRINES (1599-1657) m. ca. 1630 Marguerite ROCHE

Jean VEDRINES (1635?-1706) m. 1659 Françoise GAUTIER

Jean VEDRINES (1678?- ?) m. 1704 Marie RAYMOND

Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES (1712-1788)
m. 1758 at Illinois
Elizabeth TISSERAN de Moncharvaux

Pierre VEDRINES (1707-1773)
m. 1735 at Preignac
Marie PINSAN

Jean Baptiste Pierre Lapaise VIDRINE
m. 1788
Marie Josephe BRIGNAC

Etienne Lapaise VEDRINE
m. 1795
Victoire SOILEAU

Jean Baptiste VEDRINES
never married

[Jean? Pierre?] VEDRINES
m. [?]
Mlle de VILLENEUVE

Jean Charles Michel VEDRINES

Chapter IX

The Sons Who Stayed in France: Pierre, François, and Guillaume Védrines

There were at least four sons born to Jean VEDRINES and Marie RAYMOND. Of these, Pierre and Jean Baptiste Lapaise married and have surviving descendants. The other two, François and Guillaume, joined the Benedictine order [1] which had been founded by Saint Benedictus in the sixth century. The Benedictine monasteries were centers of learning through the Middle Ages and were still held in high regard in the eighteenth century.

The eldest son, Pierre VEDRINES, married 10 March 1735. That marriage secured Pierre's inheritance and promised future heirs to it. If Pierre had remained unmarried, the parents would not have deprived their other three sons of the bulk of the estate.

So, soon after the marriage of Pierre, the youngest son, Guillaume, made his vows as a Benedictine at the Monastery of la Daurade in Toulouse.[2] In all likelihood he had been preparing several years for this dedication of his life to God. The ceremony was on 23 September 1735, only seven months after his eldest brother's marriage. Perhaps his vocation flowered more easily since his inheritance from his parent's estate would be minimal, and having three older brothers may have prompted the early decision. He was just nineteen.

The influence of the oldest brother's marriage is more obvious in the case of François. As the next in line, he would be heir after Pierre, if Pierre had no children.

François was almost thirty years old when he took his final vows at the Monastery of La Daurade; this final commitment was made when his nephew, Pierre's firstborn, was two and a half years old. Jean VEDRINES and Marie RAYMOND would not have encouraged his vocation until after the birth of a grandson.

At Villemagne, a little town in Herault that had developed around an abbey founded by Charlemagne, the monk François VEDRINES died, on October eighth, 1756. The first son of the family to die, he was not yet forty-seven years old.

The youngest brother Guillaume died at Bordeaux in August, 1788. He may have been the VEDRINES to whom Father BARRIERE referred when he wrote on a VIDRINE baptism in Opelousas, Louisiana: "de Vedrinne. This family is noble and was well known to me in Bordeaux in 1770."[3]

Pierre VEDRINES, son of Jean Baptiste VEDRINES and Marie RAYMOND, inherited the buildings and property near Barsac. Visiting the Barsac area as a child and as a young man, Pierre would have known the Marie PINSAN, who lived in the neighboring parish of Preignac. They may have known each other for several years before their marriage in March of 1735.[4] He may even have stayed at the manor house of his parents' property for extended periods - perhaps supervising the vineyards or repairs on the house - conducting family business in Barsac and Preignac. He was almost twenty-eight years old when he married. Had he waited for a special little girl to grow up? Since their last child was born in 1760, Marie must have been several years younger than Pierre.

Marie was the daughter of Bernard PINSAN and Marguerite PINSAN. It may be that she went back to the parish of the PINSANs only for the births and baptisms of their children. Yet the fact that so many baptisms are recorded in Preignac, without reference to residency in the parish of Barsac, indicates that the young couple lived near her parents for many years after their marriage.

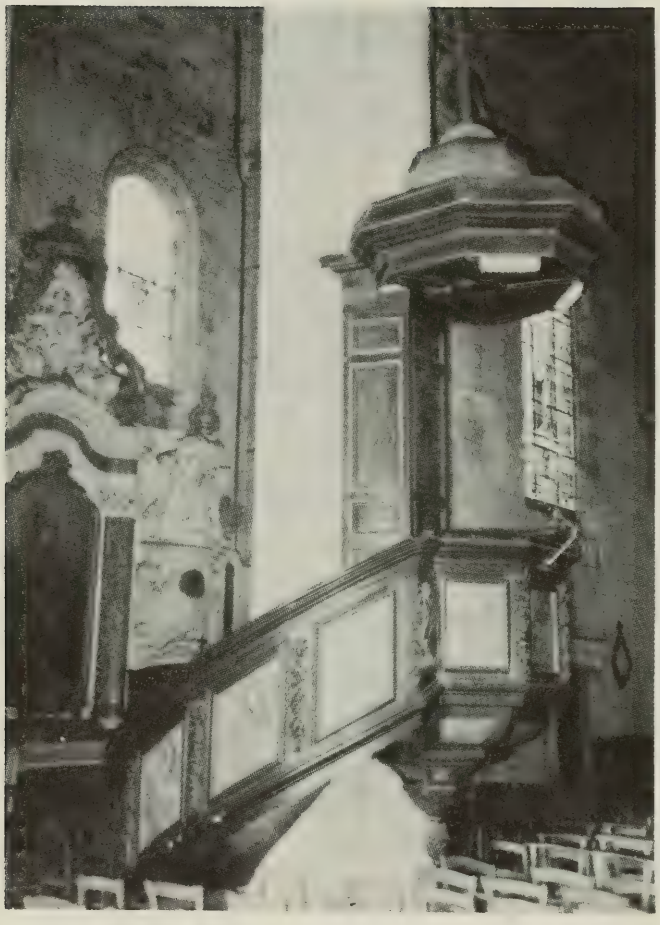
Pierre VEDRINES is identified as maître des arts on his record of marriage in 1735, and again on the baptism of a child in 1738. In 1742 he is called avocat en la cour, indicating that, like his father and grandfather, he had completed studies in law.[5]

Records of 1747 and 1757 tell us that he is Capitaine de la Garde Côtes,[6] that is, captain of a militia group assigned the duty of guarding the coast, which, for Pierre, might have meant the banks of the Garonne, near his home or at Bordeaux, or even the coast of the Atlantic. He was a captain of the dragoons, a member of the bourgeoisie.[7]

There is no documentation that suggests Pierre was ennobled or came from a family of the nobility. What is certain is that he, and probably his parents, had held a position of respect and of prominence in the area. When he died at age sixty-five, at the quartier de Védrines he was buried within the church at Barsac. The death of "Sieur pierre vedrines" was entered in the Barsac church register:[8]

> The year 1773 the second of the month of November died at the Quarter de Védrines Sieur Pierre VEDRINES bourgeois, a former captain of the Dragons, age 65 years, spouse of Dame Marie PINSAN.
> His body was buried the next day in the church, in presence of Bertrand GUILHEM and of Jean des PUJOLS.

The church still stands but there is no trace of Pierre's final resting place. The ancient stone floors and the high arched ceiling date from the sixteenth century. The church tower over the main door and the ornately carved wood furnishings inside are said to date from the eighteenth century.



At the Barsac graveyard a very old lady pointed out to us the place that once belonged to "Chevalier de VEDRINES" who "owned the Chateau Doisy-Védrines before the French Revolution". She said the ownership of the burial plot went along with ownership of the chateau property. Several people spoke of knowing about "Chevalier de VEDRINES" who had been proprietor of Doisy-Védrines. One said the chateau had been built by that "chevalier", and another "knew" it had been built "during the time of Louis XII". Still another talked about the "Chevalier de Vedrines" who had been "guillotined".[9] The funeral records of Pierre in 1773 and of his eldest son and heir in 1813 span the years of wild and unrestrained use of "Dr. Guillotin's invention", and both indicate quiet deaths, at home among their relatives.[10]

It is obvious that, although there have been no VEDRINES in the Barsac area for several generations, the name is remembered, and with honor and esteem that have produced through those years an idealistic elevation in social rank.

In condensed form the children of Pierre VEDRINES and Marie PINSAN - the grandchildren of Jean VEDRINES père and Marie RAYMOND - the nieces and nephews of Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES - are:

Jean Baptiste VEDRINES first born son and heir;
born 15 March 1737 at Preignac (For clarity in further discussion, Preignac will be added to his name). Godfather was Sieur Jean Baptiste VEDRINES, resident of Sainte Livrade.
Never married
died, unmarried, 12 July 1813, age 76

Marie VEDRINES, baptized 30 July 1738
Godmother was Mme Marie de RAYMOND of Sainte-Livrade but she was not present.
No further record found.

Marie-Anne VEDRINES, baptized 11 October 1739
Godparents were Monsieur Jean VEDRINES and Marie-Anne VEDRINES. Neither was present.
No further record found.

[Jean? Pierre?] VEDRINES, baptized 23 February 1741.
He may be the one who died in January 1749.

Catherine VEDRINES, baptized 11 April 1742
never married
died 1793, parish of Barsac.

Jacques VEDRINES, baptized 27 April 1743,
probably died in childhood.

Marguerite VEDRINES, baptized 9 Dec. 1744
Godparents were Sieur Jean VEDRINES and Marguerite PINSAN

Pierre VEDRINES, baptized March 1746, may be the one who died in January 1749.

Marianne VEDRINES, baptized 4 April 1747
Godparents were Jean Francois BANOT, bourgeois of Bordeaux and Marianne VEDRINES. Priest present, BARREYRE.

Thérèse VEDRINES, baptized 7 February 1750
Godparents were Jean PINSAN and Martha PINSAN (It is signed, "Pierre Pinsan")

Marie Marguerite VEDRINES, baptized 10 July 1751
Godparents were Sr. Jean VEDRINES and demoiselle Marie VEDRINES. Signed by Marie VEDRINES.

Marguerite VEDRINES, baptized April 1756; probably the one who died 6 January 1757, age 8 months.

Pierre Augustin VEDRINES, baptized 27 July 1757
Godparents, Sieur Pierre VEDRINES and demoiselle Marie VEDRINES.

child [Pierre?] VEDRINES, born and died same day, 1760

Views
from
the
Chateau

Several details have not been given the time required to resolve them. One is the hurried note we made in Preignac of the death of Pierre, son of Pierre VEDRINES and Marie PINSAN, [age 7 or 17? months or years?] in January, 1749. Depending on the age, this could be [Jean? Pierre?] born 1741, but still seven years old that January; Pierre baptized March 1746, who was about 21 months old but could have been judged by the priest as being seventeen months; or an entirely different child born in May or June 1748, whose record has not been found, who would have been seven months old that January 1749. One Pierre was godfather in 1757; another Pierre died on the day of his birth, in 1760.

A record that should be studied is the baptism of the boy, 23 February 1741. From the listing, Mademoiselle Pujol, secretary at the mayor's office, noted Pierre.[11] My notes have [Jean?] as the name in the register. In many cases it could be assumed that he was named for his godfather; here my notebook has parin Jean PINSAN, and carefully registers the fact that the baptismal record is signed by Pierre PINSAN.

Augustin VEDRINES, born at Preignac, left for Saint-Domingue in July 1774.[12] This would be Pierre Augustin, baptized 27 July 1757 and so seventeen years old.

Now, the heart of the problem is which Pierre or Jean was the father of the young heir of his uncle Jean Baptiste VEDRINES (Preignac), eldest son of Pierre and Marie PINSAN?

Jean Baptiste (Preignac), who never married, had inherited the chateau and vineyards in the lieu called Védrines from his father in 1773. He must have enjoyed being fussed over by the three unmarried sisters living with him. The first of these to die was Catherine, in 1793; then Marie in 1803, and only Anne was left.[13] Since not a single marriage for any of the VEDRINES-PINSAN children has been found, it can be assumed that none of the ones in France ever married. When Jean Baptiste (Preignac) was getting old and lonely, did he write to the one or two of his brothers overseas? Or did the widowed brother in Martinique write to him?

With a passport bearing the date 11 April 1802, one brother arrived in late May of that year at the family home. With him was his son, Jean Charles Michel, who

had been born in December 1796 or January 1797.[14] The boy's mother, Marguerite Francoise Celeste de VILLENEUVE, had died on the island of Martinique, and his uncle and aunt soon became his only family. His father died, about a month after their arrival, on June twenty-ninth, 1802, at his brother's home in the area called Védrines, very near Barsac.

But which VEDRINES-PINSAN son was this one, who had traveled so far and returned? Was it Pierre Augustin, who had left for Saint-Domingue in 1774? Had he married Mademoiselle de VILLENEUVE when he ended up in Martinique instead? Or had Pierre Augustin left at that young age to join an older brother already established in Martinique?[15]

The funeral of the young orphan's father seems perfectly clear. It is dated 29 June 1802:[16]

> Acte de Deces du citoyen Pierre Védrines agé de cinquante sept ans veuf de Dame Marguerite françoise celeste de Villeneuve fils des deffunts Citoyen Pierre Védrines Propriétaire et de Dame Marie Pinsan Rentré dans Cette Commune, Lieu de Sa Naissance Depuis Environ un mois S'étant Retiré de St. Pierre Martinique Le onze floreal an onze Suivant La Passeporte que Lui En avait Eté Delivré Et qui nous a Eté Representé decedé de La Veille à quatre heures de Relevée Chez Le Citoyen Jean Baptiste Vedrines Son frere Propriétaire Residant dans Cette Commune au Lieu appellé Vedrines...

When he married in 1815, his son, Jean Charles Michel [remembered in family tradition as Michel] gave his father's name as Jean VEDRINES. Michel was only about five and one-half years old when his father died so he could have been mistaken - yet he gave all of his mother's names with very little trouble, substituting only Celene for Celeste, and even this may have been correct.[17]

So, until further work is done, it cannot be said which brother of the proprietor to Doisy-Védrines was the one who returned with his son during the springtime of 1802, to the haven of his paternal home.

Jean Baptiste VEDRINES (Preignac) probably was the godson of Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES. He was born in Preignac in the department of Gironde, 15 March 1737, the eldest son and heir of Pierre VEDRINES, native of Sainte-Livrade in Lot-et-Garonne, and of Marie PINSAN of Preignac. Like his uncle Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES, he went into military service. In the infantry of the Regiment of Piémont, he was promoted from enseigne to lieutenant when he was only twenty years old, and then, on the day before his twenty-second birthday, he was made captain. In 1763, on April seventh, his pension as capitaine reformé began but in September, 1770, he was again on active duty as part of a company. Early in 1785 he formally retired from the military and at that time he was awarded a pension of 800 livres in consideration for his services.[18]

In the early hours before dawn on July twelfth, 1813, Jean Baptiste VEDRINES (Preignac), proprietor, died, presumably at his home in the lieu called Védrines near Barsac although that is not mentioned on the record.[19] Since he had never married, and since the brother who would have been his heir had died eleven years before, the inheritance went to the young orphan, Michel, who had lived with him and his sister, Anne, since 1802.[20]

Michel was very young at sixteen to be proprietor of such a place as Doisy-Védrines. Surely he must have had a curator to supervise the estate. But there was no family left in France. Of the Sainte-Livrade VEDRINES, his paternal great-uncles were all deceased. Two had been monks, and the other had died in Louisiana in 1788. His aunt, Anne, was probably the only surviving paternal relative in France after the death of his uncle Jean Baptiste (Preignac); she died in 1814 when he was still seventeen years old. Who was helping the young man remains a mystery. What is known is that by 8 April 1815 he was no longer living at the lieu Védrines. At the age of eighteen years plus four months, he married a fifteen-year-old, Jeanne Aimée Catherine (called Florentine) FOURNIER, at Bordeaux; at that time he was residing on his domaine de la Pachère, at Barsac.[21]

CHATEAU DOISY-VÉDRINES

KNOWN PROPRIETORS

JEAN RAYMOND
A strong partisan of Louis XIV in the Bordelais during the Fronde - an unsuccessful struggle for power by some of the nobility against the King.
His oath of fealty
15 February 1677
for the fief Doisy may not have been his first.
He probably received the fief in reward for services rendered during the Fronde.
(1648-1653)

PAUL RAYMOND
Heir to Doisy at his father's death
1687
He swore an oath of fealty to King Louis XIV
19 November 1698

MARIE RAYMOND
Her husband JEAN VEDRINES swore in her name the oath of fealty to Louis XV.
7 September 1716

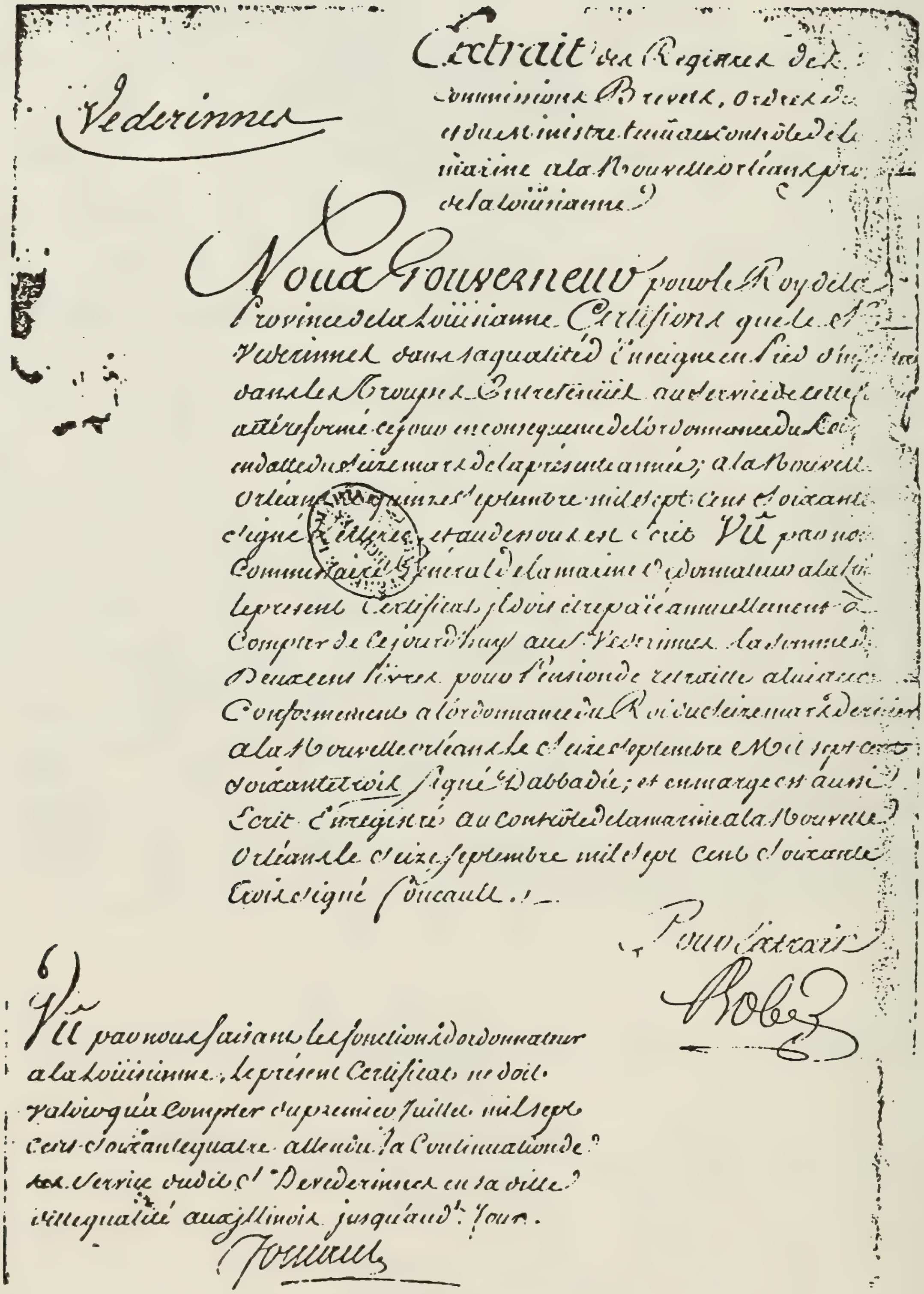
PIERRE VEDRINES
Heir to Doisy-Vedrines at his mother's death
ca. 1760-1765

JEAN BAPTISTE VEDRINES of Preignac
Heir at his father's death
1773

JEAN CHARLES MICHEL VEDRINES
Nephew and heir of Jean Baptiste of Preignac, inherited the Chateau at his death
1813
It is said he is the one who lost the Chateau.

It is uncertain when the Doisy-Védrines property was lost to the VEDRINES, but it may have been several years earlier than the "circa 1835" date usually mentioned in Barsac.[22] A tradition among descendants of the VEDRINES-FOURNIER marriage, as written in a letter dated 1914, tells of Michel de VEDRINES "born in Louisiana" coming to France around 1800 at age four years, with his father who had lived "in the colonies". His father soon died, and he was reared by an uncle at Barsac from whom he inherited. He lost this fortune and went to Tournon in the department of Lot-et-Garonne. His son Henri went to Louisiana and married there a Mademoiselle de VEZIN, "niece de Monseigneur de VEZIN."[23]

It is rare to find a family tradition so detailed and rarer still to be able to document so many of its statements. Aside from the facts - and the relatively few confusions - relating to the Michel VEDRINES and Florentine FOURNIER family already discussed, it was satisfying to confirm that Henry did indeed come to Louisiana, and he did marry into a prominent Louisiana family. His bride on June seventeenth, 1847, was Marie Françoise Justine Rose OLIVIER de Vezin, daughter of Charles OLIVIER and of Wilhelmina PERRAULT. The paternal ancestor of Charles was a very well known land owner and official in Louisiana but he was not a "Monseigneur" of either church or state. Henry VEDRINES and his bride made their home near New Iberia, Louisiana, and the baptisms of six children are recorded there and in Saint Martinville.[24]


Vedrinnes

Extrait des Registres des commissions Brevets, Ordres et ordonnances enregistrés au contrôle de la marine à la Nouvelle Orléans province de la Louisiane

Nous Gouverneur pour le Roy de la Province de la Louisiane Certifions que le Sr Vedrinnes dans sa qualité d'Enseigne en Pied d'infanterie dans les Troupes Entretenues au service de cette colonie a été reformé ce jour en conséquence de l'ordonnance du Roy en datte du seize mars de la présente année; à la Nouvelle Orléans le quinze septembre mil sept cent soixante signé Kerlerec, et au dessous est écrit Vu par nous Commissaire Général de la marine Ordonnateur à la Louisiane le present Certificat, il doit être payé annuellement à compter de ce jourd'huy au Sr Vedrinnes la somme de Deux cent livres pour pension de retraitte à lui accordée Conformément à l'ordonnance du Roi du seize mars dernier à la Nouvelle Orléans le seize septembre Mil sept cent soixante trois signé Dabbadie; et en marge est aussi Ecrit Enregistré au Contrôle de la marine à la Nouvelle Orléans le seize septembre mil sept cent soixante trois signé Foucault.

Pour Extrait

Vu par nous faisant les fonctions d'ordonnateur à la Louisiane, le présent Certificat ne doit valoir qu'à compter du premier Juillet mil sept cent soixante quatre attendu la continuation de ses services dudit Sr Devedrinnes en sa ditte qualité aux Illinois jusqu'au dt jour.

Foucault

Retirement
Enseigne en Pied
Védrines
1764

Chapter X

The Son Who Came to America: Jean Baptiste Lapaise Védrines

Traditions add interest to a family's story, and they can add to our historical understanding even when they do not add to historical fact. Families preserve what is important to them, giving a sociological continuity -- even a kind of psychological uniformity -- to the generations. Most families have preserved a tradition about their origin, the bravery of an ancestor, or a tale of romance. There is always a core of truth.[1]

When the editor of my hometown newspaper repeated the VIDRINEs story to me in 1956, he commented that this was a fantastic story and that I should see what I could find.[2] What I found was our children's ancestors in France.

In France a family of de VEDRINES tells the story that "a long time ago, there was a duel...."[3]

In Louisiana the VIDRINEs tell the story that "a long time ago, there was a duel...."[4]

> A long time ago, the VEDRINES lived in Auvergne, in the Massif central. There was a duel, une affaire d'amour. The nobleman de VEDRINES killed another nobleman. Duels were forbidden; that's why de VEDRINES had to leave his home. He came to Agenais and settled near Monflanquin.

> A long time ago, a VIDRINE lived in France. There was a duel, une affaire d'amour. The nobleman VIDRINE killed another nobleman. Duels were forbidden; that's why VIDRINE had to leave his homeland. He crossed the ocean to America and settled in Louisiana.

Even though some of the details have been proved false, the very continuity of the heart of the story across an ocean and through three centuries demands attention.[5]

The tale of migration to Monflanquin is reinforced by the fact that the Massif central is the probable source of all VEDRINES families. There is found the greatest concentration of the name; Auvergne is in its center. It is plausible that the VEDRINES chose to settle in Agenais some time after it was reconquered by the French in 1444.[6]

According to a descendant, it is believed that Guillaume de VEDRINES was the nobleman who escaped Auvergne and settled in Agenais at the end of the sixteenth century. As early as the eighteenth century there was an attempt to document the story. In 1784 the de VEDRINES of Monflanquin wrote to the Countess de BRION née MIREMONT de VEDRINES asking about the origin of their family. She testified that Guillaume must have been the youngest son of her ancestor.[7]

That a duel caused the migration has not been questioned. It just hasn't been documented.[8]

The duel is the nucleus of the almost identical oral traditions of the VEDRINES of Monflanquin and those of the VIDRINE family of Louisiana.

Perhaps the young man who crossed the ocean had heard the story all of his life. It is possible that the Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES was the duelist of the Louisiana legend. It is more probable that he carried with him from France the traditional tale; and as his descendants re-told the story, he became its protagonist.

Could it be that the two legendary duelists, Guillaume de VEDRINES and Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES, were both descendants of a much earlier duelist, the founder of the first family of VEDRINES in Agenais?[9]

Without a shred of evidence, no one doubts that there really was a duel.

But the search for proof of the duel has produced extensive knowledge of the Louisiana "duelist".

Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES left France for service in the province of Louisiana as a junior officer in the marine and remained an officer in good standing until his retirement as enseigne en pied.[10] He may have gone into the military even before his eldest brother Pierre's marriage in 1735. But that marriage made clear that he could expect a lesser share of any inheritance and would have to find his fortune elsewhere. It is this decision that led to his eventual settlement in Louisiana.

Although one archival series in France confirms the fact of his service,[11] none of the depositories consulted were able to furnish the service record of Jean Baptiste Lapaise. Therefore, a brief account of a cousin's career is enlightening.

Regnaud de LARTIGUE de BASSABAT, chevalier, was born the same year as Jean Baptiste Lapaise, and it is possible that the first parts of their military careers were parallel.

Regnaud, son of François Martial de LARTIGUE and Isabeau JACOUBET (a first cousin of Lapaise VEDRINES), had obtained a place in a company of student officers called cadets in 1729. Then prospective officers were accepted as cadets from the upper bourgeoisie, even from those without titles of nobility. Regnaud had received his appointment through the recommendation of de BIRON, a maréchal of France. Later, there was a violent upper class reaction to middle-class appointments so forceful that anyone who was non-noble could not hope to become an officer. The companies of cadets were dispersed, and those worthy by birth were placed as officers in the regular companies. As a result, Regnaud was named lieutenant in the regiment Richelieu-Infanterie in 1733. He saw action in Germany around 1734. In 1737 he married at Sainte-Livrade and became father of seven children.[12]

Regnaud de LARTIGUE, husband and father, remained in France. Lapaise VEDRINES sought adventure in the new world.

There is frequent mention of VEDRINES in the archives of Louisiana Province as an officer in the marine detached to Louisiana. It seems reasonable that he was one of the military group described in the excessively optimistic report to the King of France detailing preparations for a campaign against the Chickasaw Indians.[13]

This detachment intended for Louisiana totaled 550 men: 400 marines from Brest, 100 from Rochefort, and 50 men of a Swiss company. The five hundred marines were divided into ten companies of fifty men, each commanded by a captain, a lieutenant, one enseigne en pied, and one second ensign. For these companies the captains were enseignes de vaisseau in rank, the lieutenants and infantry ensigns were sous-lieutenants, and the second ensigns were gardes-marine.[14]

According to the report made to the King on New Year's Day, 1739, the troops and officers of the marine detachment were all volunteers. When the formation of a detached group for Louisiana service was being planned, all of the troops proffered their services with eagerness, and those who seemed most suitable for the campaign were chosen and given special training. The supplemental salary for serving "in a country so difficult" was only for the time spent in New Orleans before and after the expedition. It could not have been a strong inducement since they expected to arrive in New Orleans in March for a June campaign, and leave toward the month of October.[15] The greatest appeal must have been the idea of travel to the New World for one short, successful excursion.

One wonders how many of the soldiers knew that this same report to the King announced the decision to allow the Louisiana governor to keep them after the expedition if he so wished.[16]

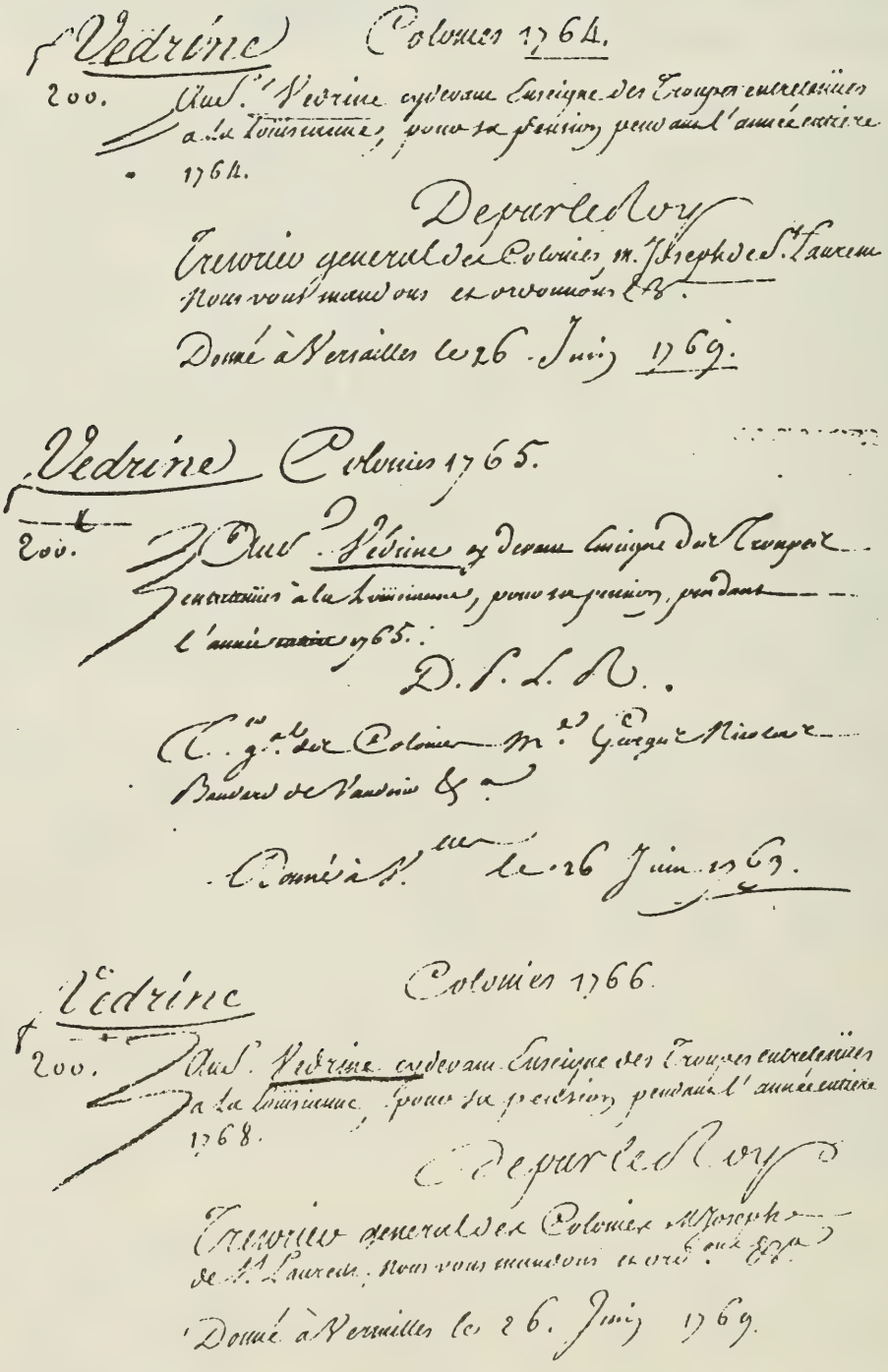
The young cadet à l'aiguillette,[17] Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES may have arrived in Louisiana by July 1739, on the Somme which sailed from Rochefort or the Atlas which sailed from Brest, or one of the merchant ships, the Raudot or the Perle which sailed with them.[18] It may be that he came with the contingent of military men who arrived the next year. He could have been on board the Comte de Maurepas which left from Bordeaux and arrived in Louisiana in January of 1740. That was a particularly exciting and dangerous voyage, for the vessel was attacked by an English ship.[19]

At least six other ships bringing supplies and men arrived in 1740: Sailing from LaRochelle, the Reine des Anges and L'Aimable Suzanne reached Louisiana in January. The Charente and l'Andromède of LaRochelle arrived in May. Others were the Louis Erasme, the Sultane, the Profond, and the Providence.[20]

A list made in New Orleans in 1740 of officers serving in Louisiana names both cadets à l'aiguillette and cadets soldats, but VEDRINES is not listed. However, closer study shows that NOUAILLES d'AYME and DUPIN de BELUGARD, known to have come as leaders of the marine detachment, are not on the list either. Nor are DUJAY de PEPINAY and D'AUBIGNY, two other officers who were at Fort Assumption for the Chickasaw expedition.[21] Perhaps these men were of such high military rank that they would not be included. Perhaps the roster was only of colonial troops already assigned to regular duty in Louisiana. The absence of VEDRINES' name does not eliminate the chance of his presence, since it is likely that one of the marines on detached duty would not be included in an enumeration of colonial troops unless and until he decided to remain as one of them.

Since neither the date of his departure from France nor that of his arrival in Louisiana are known, all of the above present only possibilities. The one certainty is that "de VERDINE, cadet à l'Eguilette", is listed as being in New Orleans on a record made in 1743, with the date 29 October 1742 next to his name.[22]

It cannot yet be proved when or why Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES left France, nor whether or not he ever was involved in a duel. It is probable that he brought from Agenais the tale of a VEDRINES' duel and that his descendants made it his own.



Vedrine Colonies 1764.

200. Au S.r Vedrine cy devant Enseigne des Troupes entretenües a la Louisianne, pour sa pension pendant l'année entiere 1764.

De par le Roy

Tresorier general des Colonies, M. Joseph de S.t Laurent Nous vous mandons et ordonnons &c.

Donné à Versailles le 26. Juin 1769.

Vedrine Colonies 1765.

200. Au S.r Vedrine cy devant Enseigne des Troupes entretenües à la Louisianne, pour sa pension, pendant l'année entiere 1765.

D. P. L. R.

T.er g.al des Colonies M.e Georges Nicolas Baudard de Vaudoin &c.

Donné à V.lles le 26 Juin 1769.

Vedrine Colonies 1766.

200. Au S.r Vedrine cy devant Enseigne des Troupes entretenües a la Louisianne, pour sa pension pendant l'année entiere 1768.

De par le Roy

Tresorier general des Colonies M. Joseph de S.t Laurent, Nous vous mandons et ord.ons &c.

Donné à Versailles le 26. Juin 1769.

Pension receipts for
Jean Baptiste Lapaise Védrines

It is hoped that, before Volume II: The Védrines in Louisiana Province is published, more can be discovered about the early military years of Jean Baptiste Lapaise VEDRINES, the first of his family to leave the province of Guyenne since the mid-sixteenth century.

He came to Louisiana during a fascinating period of colonial history. He would live in primitive settlements through times of troubles with Indians, encroachment on French territory by the English, and a long war that ended French dominance in both Canada and Louisiana.

He would see England's colonial troops occupy his land, the homeplace he had established in Illinois, and he would move with his wife and young children to the lower part of the Province of Louisiana, remaining even though Spanish rule began.

He would become a farmer-landowner on a new frontier, probably relieved that he was too old to serve when many of his neighbors left to fight the British at Pensacola, Mobile and Baton Rouge. He would hear about their victories, and later about the infant nation, the United States, which won its rebellion against the English king with the help of his new homeland, Louisiana.

Much material has been collected about the places he saw and the people he met in the New World, and their stories are part of his.

Abbreviations

AD	Archives Départementales
AM	Archives Municipales
AN	Archives Nationales
E Supp.	Série E Supplément
HMLO	Huntington Memorial Library, Loudoun Collection, Vaudreuil Papers.
L-et-G	Lot-et-Garonne
MPA	Rowland and Sanders, Mississippi Provincial Archives, French Dominion.
USL	Dupre Library, University of Southwestern Louisiana, Colonial Records Collection.

Reference Notes

Chapter I Jean Baptiste Capaise Védrines

1. "Procuration of Vedrines", 2 September 1765. French Colonial Archives, Cabildo Records, Louisiana State Museum, New Orleans, Louisiana.

2. See the photostat, transcription, and translation of the 1758 marriage, pages 4-6.

3. Regrettably, I did not meet Dr. Brown until after Village of Chartres was published. The error is repeated in that book on page 207.

4. See references under Vidrine in the Bibliography.

5. Jan Tate, "Cousins" (Mamou, Louisiana: unpublished manuscript).

6. "Villeneuve-sur-Lot," Carte de France (Paris: Institut Géographique National, 1957), feuille xviii-39. It is spelled "Lapeze" on modern road signs.

7. See Chapter V, Testament of Pierre Vedrines, 1622.

8. Jean Védrine, Paris, to J.O.V., 21 December 1970.

9. Will Durant, The Age of Reason Begins, Vol. VII of The Story of Civilization (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1963), 374-375. Hereafter cited as Durant,

Age of Reason. David Ogg, Europe in the Seventeenth Century (New York: McMillan, 1925), 184-185. Hereafter cited as Ogg, Europe.

10. Durant, Age of Reason, 358, 366. On the other hand, Paul LaCroix, France in the Middle Ages (New York: Unger, 1963), 378, suggests that hereditary privileges dated from 1580. Hereafter cited as LaCroix, France.

11. LaCroix, France, 354.

12. Ibid., 360.

13. The local royal Parlement for Bordeaux had been created in 1451; that of Toulouse, in 1443. Jean Burias, Guide des archives de Lot-et-Garonne (Agen: Imprimerie de la Préfecture de Lot-et-Garonne, 1972), 35, 39. Hereafter cited as Burias, Guide. J. Russell Major, Representative Institutions in Renaissance France (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1960), 5. Establishment of the Bordeaux Parlement is discussed by Lalanne who maintains that 1462 is the correct date, and that sessions were held in various places because of plagues and revolts. Parlement met in Agen for les Grands Jours in 1540, and again in 1578. Ludovic Lalanne, Dictionnaire-Historique de la France (2nd. Edition, Paris: Librairie Hachette, 1817), s.v. "Parlement". Hereafter cited as Lalanne, Dictionnaire. Les Grands Jours were royal hearings of complaints from the populace. In 1664, the great inquest known as "Les Grands Jours d'Auvergne" revealed a "tyranny of the country side" - outrageous injustices imposed by many nobles upon their estates. Ogg, Europe, 69, cites this contemporary account: Flechier, Mémoires (1655).

14. Durant, Age of Reason, 375; LaCroix, France 360-361, 374-375, 378; Ogg, Europe, 184-185. The lawyers and judges were also called robins and gens de robe.

15. The records presented in the book show the multiplicity of interrelationships as well as the continuity or monopoly of offices in certain families.

16. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3586-3593. Mlle L. Bourrachot, Agen, to J.O.V., 2 January 1978.

17. Jean Védrine, Paris, to J.O.V., 21 December 1970; G. E. Mazerolles to Jean Védrine, quoted in Jean Védrine to J.O.V., February 1981.

18. Randle Cotgrave, A Dictionarie of the French and English Tongues (London, 1611; reprint edition, New York: Adler, 1970). Hereafter cited as Cotgrave, Dictionarie.

19. J. M. Soulié, Septfonds près Lapèze, to J.O.V., January, 1981.

20. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3683, 3685, 3686, 3687, 3689.

21. Barrière left Bordeaux in 1793 for Baltimore and arrived in the Opelousas-Attakapas area of Louisiana in 1795. Baptism of Barrière, Parish of St. Croix, born 4 February 1754, AM, Bordeaux; Passport, 8 May 1793, AD, Gironde; St. Landry Catholic Church Archives, Baptismal Book I, p. 113; Roger Baudier, The Catholic Church in Louisiana (New Orleans: Roger Baudier, 1939), 239.

22. Cotgrave, Dictionarie, s.v. "noble".

Chapter II A Bit of Geography and History

1. J. M. Soulié to J.O.V., January, 1981; Secret, "Histoire de la Guyenne", Visages de la Guyenne (Paris: Horizons de France, 1966), 68-70. Hereafter cited as Secret, "Histoire".

2. Larousse, Petit Larousse (Paris: Librairie Larousse, 1961), s.v. "Aquitaine", "Guyenne". Hereafter cited as Larousse, Petit.

3. Larousse, Petit, s.v. "Aquitaine". Secret, "Histoire", 206, differs slightly.

4. Eleanor, daughter of Guillaume X, Duke of Guyenne (1127-1137). After the dissolution of her marriage to Louis VII of France, she married Henry.

5. Larousse, Petit, s.v. "Aquitaine"; Secret, "Histoire", 78-79.

6. Michelin et Cie., eds. Périgord: Berry, Limousin, Quercy (Paris: Press Michelin, Services du Tourisme, 1971), 46. Hereafter cited as Michelin, Périgord. Hachette, Poitou, Guyenne (Paris: Librairie Hachette, 1964), 538-539. Hereafter cited as Hachette, Poitou, Guyenne.

7. LaCroix, France, 256; Paul Fénelon, "Géographie Humaine de la Guyenne", Visages de la Guyenne (Paris: Horizons de France, 1966), 48. Hereafter cited as Fénelon "Géographie".

8. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3698.

9. Pierre Desfontaines, Les Hommes et leur Travaux dans les pays de la moyenne Garonne (Lille: Faculté Catholique, 1932) Hereafter cited as Desfontaines, Hommes. Also, LaCroix, France, 265.

10. Larousse, Petit, s.v. "Massif central".

11. LaCroix, France, 265.

12. The earliest extant records are baptisms, 1579 (AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3683). Two well-known tourist guides do not do justice to the town. The Michelin "Red Guide" to France mentions under its name only two sites of interest, neither of these at Sainte-Livrade. Michelin et Cie, eds., France (Paris: Press Michelin, Services du Tourisme, 1972). The Hachette "Guide Bleu", France, does note that the Sainte-Livrade church is of the twelfth century. Hachette, France (Paris: Librairie Hachette, 1977) 595. Hereafter cited as Hachette, France. Both guides do list the hotel and its excellent restaurant, "Le Midi".

13. In spite of high mortality in 1630-1632 and early in the 1650's, the parish church of Sainte-Livrade counted 3,249 members around 1670. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3689. The number of inhabitants of Saint-Livrade was estimated at 1,000 in 1765, but this may have excluded the parishioners in the rural areas. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3784; G. Tholin and R. Bonnat, Inventaire sommaire, Arrondissements de Nérac et de Villeneuve-sur-Lot, Vol. II of Inventaire

sommaire des Archives départementales de Lot-et-Garonne antérieurs à 1790. Série E. supplément. (Agen: Imprimeries Moderne et de l'Agenais, 1885-1898), 28-, 312. Hereafter cited as Tholin and Bonnat, Inventaire.

14. The agricultural college is at Miguels, near Lapèze, a short distance north of Sainte-Livrade. For early mention of a Védrines farm, see Chapter V, Testament of François Vedrines, 1653.

15. Tholin and Bonnat, Inventaire, 282.

16. In 1207 Agen had within its senechalsy only twelve "bailies", along both banks of the Garonne. Burias, Guide, 35.

17. Hachette, France, 595; Hachette, Poitou, Guyenne, 483. For details of construction and dates, see Jean Burias, Eglises Du Lot-et-Garonne (Paris: Nouvelles Editions Latines, n.d.), 28.

18. Sister Lydia Gallant, Moncton, N. B., Canada, to J.O.V., December 1968 and August 1981.

19. Tholin and Bonnat, Inventaire, 279.

20. Except for four made in 1979, all photographs were taken in 1972. Two of the most interesting streets are rue des Pénitents and rue de Tranquillité.

21. Hachette, Poitou-Guyenne, 483. My rough sketch of the tour was made in 1972. It was finished and inked by daughter Nicole Vidrine Kroeger of Fredericksburg, Texas, who did all the lettering for this volume.

22. Interviews in Sainte-Livrade, 1972: M. de Caqueray, Mayor; Mme Verger, his secretary; M. Mouilinié, notary; M. et Mme Benito of Hôtel du Midi; Mme Saboural; M. P. J. Dardinier, reporter, La Dépêche du Midi, Toulouse; interviews in the lieux-dits above Sainte-Livrade, 1972 and 1979.

23. Michelin, Périgord, 16, 45.

24. Ibid.

25. Interviews 1972 and 1979: The Marcel Carmeille-Jean Soulié family, Septfonds; farmers at Rouquelaure.

26. Visit, 1979, with Marcelle Soulié née Carmeille and her mother.

27. Marcel Carmeille, Septfonds, to J.O.V., 2 January 1973. Part of his poetic letter is reproduced as the epigraph for this volume.

28. Ibid. Interviews 1972 and 1979 with residents of Septfonds, Roquelaure, Lapèze and Miguels.

29. Ibid.

30. Interviews, 1979: Mme Jean Soulié née Carmeille, Septfonds; Mme Jean de Védrines née d'Adhemar, Monflanquin. In France the word is le pigeonnier; in Evangeline Parish, La., it is la pigeonnière.

Chapter III Memories and Records

1. Interviews, 1972; Visit with M. Moulinié, notary of Sainte-Livrade.

2. Listed with the departmental archives in Tholin and Bonnat, Inventaire, as E Supp. 3581 [error, should be 3681]; in 1972 the Cadastre was at the mayor's office, and may still be there at Sainte-Livrade.

3. Jean Burias, Directeur des Services d'Archives, AD, L-et-G, Agen, to J.O.V., 15 June 1963.

4. J. Burias to J.O.V., 23 September 1963; "Testament of Pierre de Vidrine", Opelousas Post Archives, St. Landry Parish, Louisiana State Archives, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

5. J. Burias to J.O.V., 23 September 1963; Le Conservateur en Chef, AD, Gironde, Bordeaux, to J.O.V., 9 March 1964.

6. Bureau du Chef du Service Historique, Ministère des Armées, Vincennes, to D.W.V., 17 February 1961.

7. Mlle L. Bourrachot, Documentaliste-Archiviste, AD, L-et-G, Agen to J.O.V., 2 January 1978.

8. Ibid.

9. See infra, Chapter IV.

10. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3685.

Chapter IV François Védrines and Marguerite Roche

1. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3684.

2. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3683.

3. See infra, Chapter VI.

4. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3683, 3684.

5. "Contrat d'accord, Vedrines et Jacoubet", AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3698.

6. AD, L-et-G, Serie D, 1643-1645. I am indebted to Dr. Arthur W. Bergeron, Jr., former Louisiana State Archivist, for making legible print-outs from the 35mm microfilm. The last three pages have not been sufficiently deciphered, but with the help of Professor Mathé Allain the rest of the document is fully transcribed.

7. Ibid.; Cécile Hugon, Social France in the XVII Century (London: Methuen & Co., 1911), 297. In 1638 Cardinal de RICHELIEU bought Aiguillon, which was again established as a duchy, for his niece Madeleine de Vignerot, in whose family it remained until 1789. Marie Madeleine de Vignerot, dame de Combalet, duchesse d'Aiguillon, died in Paris, 1675. Daughter of René de Vignerot and Françoise du Plessis, sister of Cardinal Richelieu, and "dame d'atours" of Marie de Medicis. She founded (1639) a home of nursing nuns in Canada. Lalanne, Dictionnaire, s.v. "Aiguillon".

8. According to Mlle Bourrachot, the chapel of St. Jean was built in 1626 for Les Pénitents Blancs, a religious order (Interview, October, 1972).

9. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3686.

10. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. Sainte-Livrade, baptism 20 March 1660.

11. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3684. See Appendix F for baptisms of Roche-Bernard children.

12. See his mother's testament, Chapter V.

13. AD, L-et-G, E Supp, Sainte-Livrade, baptisms 15 February 1661; E Supp. 3687, E Supp. 3689, year 1670.

14. See Chapter V, Testaments of Marguerite Roche. Soulié's linguistic study of Marguerite's 1651 testament reveals that she was obviously cultured: She spoke and, moreover, wrote in the "modern" French not common then in her region. However, that she did not use this language often is evident for awkward phraseology and idiomatic expressions do appear, reflecting her native Occitan speech. J. M. Soulié, Septfonds, to J.O.V., 23 September 1981.

15. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3687.

16. Ibid.

17. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3687, 3689.

18. See photocopies of her testaments, Chapter V. On 20 March 1660, she signed her namesake's baptism and her signature appears again 19 May 1663. AD L-et-G, E Supp. 3687.

19. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3687.

20. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. Sainte-Livrade, baptism 1 Dec. 1667.

21. L. Bourrachot to J.O.V., 2 January 1978.

22. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3683. The name "Vedrines" appears as witness on baptisms of Granie (1579), Verdier (1580), Saumad (1581), and others, but often without given name or other identification.

23. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3684.

Chapter V Seventeenth Century Testaments

1. AD, L-et-G, III E 356/55. The plague may have begun again. It is mentioned at Montagnac in 1653 and 1654. Tholin, Inventaire, 255. The Sainte-Livrade funeral register indicates greater mortality in the early 1650's, as it had for 1630 and 1631, "the years of the pestilence". AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3686; Tholin, Inventaire, 279.

2. A cachet is a small engraved seal, having in relief or in depth the initials or mark of the one owning it. The word can refer to a seal or signet-ring bearing the arms of a noble. Larousse, Classique, s.v. "cachet". But only one example seen in the archives is that of a titled family. During the fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, many bourgeois officer-holders had a cachet, some made up of letters and some of designs which often included a letter or letters. Each probably had a particular meaning but, even when the imprinted design has remained clear, the passage of time has obscured its meaning. The minutes dated 1502-1506 of Antherieux, notary of Tournon, have examples of three models of signum, all designed of crossed ovals. Pierre de Copertone, notary at Monflanquin, used during the years 1434-1435 the signum of an arrow-pierced heart in the vertical line of the letter "T". Tholin, Inventaire, 253, 291. The will of Pierre Vedrines in 1722 mentions his cachet but its imprint is no longer visible on the original. AD, L-et-G, III E 356/55. These particular seals do not represent the blazon or arms of a noble family, but they were used in much the same way. L. Bourrachot to J.O.V., 2 January 1978; Tholin Inventaire, 253, 291; Larousse, Classique, s.v. "cachet". The official seals of present-day governmental offices have essentially the same purpose of positive identification.

   William H. Whitmore, (Elements of Heraldry [Charles E. Tuttle, 1886. Facsimile Edition, New York: Weathervane, n.d.], 10), emphasizes, with italics, that "no Lady has a right to use a crest" except sovereign princesses, but here he is referring to the

object or objects placed above a shield. He does note that "the crest is often used alone on seals". So perhaps the custom of ladies not using a crest extended to the bourgeoisie ladies not using a cachet of their own. The Duchess of Aiguillon used her ancestors' seal in 1643, and Marguerite used François Vedrines' in 1662.

3. AD, L-et-G, III E 356/55. She divides "the possessions which it pleased God to give me", using the word biens which can include assets, money, land, goods and chattels.

4. Had she used black wax in 1662, instead of red as in 1651, because she was in mourning?

5. L. Bourrachot to J.O.V., 2 January 1978. After a careful study of the surviving cachet, Mademoiselle Bourrachot sent sketches and description, from which Nicole Vidrine Kroeger did the cover design.

6. AD, L-et-G, III E 356/55. François was a jurat, the old title for municipal officer in parts of southern France (M. J. Godin to J.O.V., 6 October 1980.).

7. Because the earliest notarial document found that concerns a Sainte-Livrade Védrines is that in 1621-1622, it is noted here: Pierre Vedrines Captain of the jurisdiction, sells [what?] to Francour Descamps Maître of some vineyards (Ibid., 365/4). Pierre Vedrines is identified as a merchant several times, including the baptism of a Boussier infant in 1580 and the 1603 baptism of his own son François (AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3683, 3684).

8. Very probably the same Jacques Vedrines who witnessed his testament, 6 April 1623.

9. AD, L-et-G, III E 356/55. This is not the ancestor of Jean Baptiste Lapaise Védrines.

10. See Chapter VII. In the 1704 marriage contract, the property of Jean Baptiste Lapaise's father includes some at Miguels.

11. There are only two sons. One's name looks like Pierre in most places but does look like Etienne in one other.

12. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3688.

Chapter VI A Marriage Dispensation, 1683

1. L. Bourrachot, Agen, to J.O.V., 28 May 1970. AD, L-et-G. The following paragraphs are translated extracts from a photocopy of the original received in July, 1970. Mathé Allain, professor of French at U. S. L., aided in the transcription.

2. The contract of marriage had been signed "last April" and the three banns had already been announced.

3. There were, and are, other relationships besides consanguinity which are considered, by the Catholic Church, impediments to marriage.

4. One example, although three centuries earlier (1397), is outstanding: Jacques de Helly hurried back to imprisonment, keeping his oath to the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire that he would return after delivering to France news of the Turkish victory at Nicopolis and of the Sultan's demand of ransom for the leading nobles captured there. Barbara W. Tuchman, A Distant Mirror: The Calamitous 14th Century (New York: Knopf, 1978), 557-568.

Chapter VII Jean Védrines and Françoise Gautier

1. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3685.

2. Tholin and Bonnat, Inventaire, 363; René Bonnat, Robert Marquant, Louis Desgraves, and Yves Pérotin, Repertoire numérique de la série III-E (Notaires) Archives départementales de Lot-et-Garonne (Agen: Laborde, 1951), 118. Both refer to the same: AD, L-et-G, III E 446.

3. AD, L-et-G, III E 357/28. The signatures that appear are those of Jean Carrere, habitant of Sainte-Livrade, bourgeois, merchant, son of deceased Pierre Carrere; Antoine Lafaige, clerk of that town and jurisdiction; Jean Houradou, merchant; Maître

[Pierre] Mauron, the notary; the Sieur Jean de Vedrines, avocat à la cour, juge de cette ville.

4. All of these are in AD, L-et-G III E 358/11. The originals are difficult to read so rather full résumés are presented in the text.

5. Verdier, just south of Miguels, east of Pau. The word not deciphered looks like inclurie. It may be encleure, an old word meaning an enclosed place such as a fenced field, but also referring to the legal term cloture; or it could be inclure, meaning enclosed, perhaps enclosed by contract.

6. Probably four à ban, an oven for use of tenants or inhabitants of the jurisdiction where it stands. Perhaps this one was used, for a fee, by the townspeople.

7. Her signature here is "fransoise gautier" but it was also seen as "françoise" and "gaultier."

8. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3692.

Chapter VIII Jean Vedrines and Marie Raymond

1. See Chapter VII, testament and codicils of Jean Vedrines and Françoise Gautier, 1703, 1706.

2. AD, Gironde, III E, notaries, Barsac.

3. AN, Paris, P 535-1 xvi. An active partisan of the king during the Fronde (Coudroy de Lille to M. J. Godin, 17 January 1981), he may have received a fief soon after the Royal troops gained control in the Bordelais, August 1653. The Fronde continued there (after it had ended, October 1652, in the rest of France) because of the power and activities of nobles such as Conti, the Dowager Princesse de Condé, and Madame de Longueville. Boulanger, Seventeenth Century, 166; Ogg, Europe, 213.

4. AM, Barsac, 1613-1637.

5. AD, Gironde, III E, notaries (Barsac); AD, Gironde, IV E (Barsac 1581-1588, 1692-1693). See Appendix A.

6. AM, Bordeaux, J.O.V. microfilm.

7. AM, Barsac, 1685-1689.

8. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3684. In 1635 Pierre de Védrines, Sieur de Laborie, married Jeanne de Fort (Philippe de Védrines, Paris, to J.O.V., 6 January 1978). Nothing more has been found relating to the Fort family beyond mention of Catherine Fort as mother of other Raymond children baptised in Sainte-Livrade. See Appendix B; Appendix E for some photocopies.

9. AM, Barsac; AD, Gironde IV E (Barsac).

10. AM, Bordeaux, J.O.V. microfilm. Jean Raymond's 1677 oath was made in his name by his son Paul. In 1698, Paul made the same oath in his own name. (Ibid.) See also AN, Paris p.535-1 xvi, xlvi.

11. AM, Barsac.

12. AM, Bordeaux, Saint-Michel Parish; P. Coudroy de Lille, Bordeaux, to Marie-José Godin, Paris, 25 September 1980; M. J. Godin to J.O.V., 6 October 1980.

13. This data is also from Monsieur Coudroy de Lille. His generous assistance with the Gratechapt, Dorat, and Ayral families, 1642 and earlier, was especially helpful. Mlle Godin aided the exchange of correspondence.

14. AM, Barsac.

15. Doisy is the forgotten origin of the clan name Doizite carried by one branch of Vidrines in Evangeline Parish.

16. AD, Gironde, III E (Barsac, notary Serres). The print from microfilm is reasonably clear; the notary's handwriting was the major difficulty.

17. AM, Bordeaux, GG 360, Sainte-Eulalie.

18. P. Coudroy de Lille to Marie-José Godin, 25 September 1980.

19. Marriage contract date from Monsieur Coudroy de Lille. All other data from AM, Bordeaux, GG 465, Saint-Michel.

20. See Chapter VI. He testified for the Jacoubet-Vedrines dispensation.

21. P. Coudroy de Lille to Marie-José Godin, 17 January 1981.

22. AM, Barsac.

23. P. Coudroy de Lille to Marie-José Godin, 17 January 1981.

24. AD, Gironde IV E (Barsac 1692-1696).

25. AM Barsac (1656).

26. Interviews, 1972 and 1979, in Barsac, Preignac, Ceron, Cambes; Féret, Bordeaux, 647. One Jean Boyreau, husband of Thérèse Dalon, swore fealty for the noble house of Saint-Médard in 1716 (AN, Paris, P 535, xliii).

27. AD, L-et-G, III E 357/11.

28. See Chapter IX; AD, L-et-G, E Supp. (Sainte-Livrade). See Appendix E for his baptism.

29. O'Gilvy, Nobiliaire, 182-184.

30. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. (Sainte-Livrade); J. Burias, Agen, to J.O.V., 23 September 1963.

31. L. Bourrachot, Agen, to the author 2 January 1978. The Fraissengues-Védrines children: Jean-Baptiste, baptized 13 April 1729 (Jean Baptiste Védrines, avocat was godfather); Pierre, baptized 8 September 1730 (Godmother was Demoiselle Marie de Raymond, his grandmother); Marie baptized 12 May 1732 (Godfather was Pierre Védrines, probably her uncle); Regnaud, baptized 6 August 1734 (Isabeau Védrines was godmother); Marie, baptized 28 January 1740

(Godparents were François Védrines and Isabeau Védrines); Joseph baptized 18 April 1741 (Ibid.)

32. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. (Sainte-Livrade).

33. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. (Sainte-Livrade).

34. Dunbar Rowland and A. G. Sanders, eds., Mississippi Provincial Archives: French Dominion. 3 volumes (Jackson: Mississippi Department of History and Archives, 1927-1932) Volume I: 1729-1740, (1927), 376-387, 400-404, 407-410, 412-414, 465-466. Hereafter cited as MPA I. Loudoun Collection, Vaudreuil Papers (Henry E. Huntington Memorial Library, San Marino, California), no. 19, year 1743. Hereafter cited as HMLO.

35. AD, L-et-G, E Supp. (Sainte-Livrade).

36. Ibid.

37. AN, Paris, P 535-1 xlvi. Translation by Father Peter Van Tiel (now deceased).

38. Our visit, 1972, 1979. See also Chapter IX.

39. The mold is Botrytis cinerea. It causes loss of water and concentration of sugar and flavor within the grape. Hugh Johnson, The World Atlas of Wine (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1971), 88. Hachette, Poitou, Guyenne, s.v. "Barsac"; Féret, Bordeaux, 647-648.

40. Mme P. Castéja to Mme P. Jeannin, 12 October 1970; Jean Gassies, Mayor of Barsac, to Mme Jeannin [1969]. Interviews: Cemetary custodian, Barsac, 1972; M. Guignard, Cambes, 1979. Féret, Bordeaux, 647-648.

Chapter IX The Sons Who Stayed in France

1. Dates and places of vows and deaths of François and Guillaume Védrines are from the research of Jean Védrine, Paris, to J.O.V., July, 1971.

2. The Church of Notre Dame de la Daurade is in central Toulouse facing the Garonne River (department Haute-Garonne).

3. Baptism Bk. I, page 113, St Landry Catholic Church, Opelousas, Louisiana. See Chapter I.

4. AM, Preignac. See Appendix E for copy of their marriage.

5. Ibid.

6. Ibid. After 1662, a form of compulsory service for a limited time applied mainly to nobles living within a certain distance of threatened areas. Ogg, Europe, 236.

7. AM, Barsac, funeral 2 November 1773. A dragoon is a soldier of the cavalry trained to fight both on foot and on horseback. Larousse, Petit, s.v. "dragon". In 1761, one of Pierre Védrines' cousins, Lartigue, was in a regiment that was called out to guard "les côtes", during a time when an invasion by the English was expected.

8. AM, Barsac, funerals, 1772 a 1776. See Appendix E for copy of original.

9. Interviews, 1964, 1972, 1979. Quotes are direct translations of words used. In the summer of 1964 Professor Mahlon Soileau of Tyler College in Texas visited Barsac and spoke to the lady who said she had been custodian for the church since 1924. In 1972 she repeated to us the same details that she had told him eight years earlier. Seeing the records of tombs at Preignac makes one wonder if the Vedrines' and Raymonds' remains really were moved when the chateau was sold, to be re-interred with those of the Pinsans in Preignac.

10. AM, Barsac, deaths 1773, 1813. See Appendix E for originals.

11. The large number of references studied in Preignac could not have been found without the preparations made before our arrival by Mademoiselle Pujols, secretary at the town hall, 1972.

12. L. Bourrachot, Agen, to J.O.V., 28 February 1973.

13. AM, Barsac. This Marie must have been the Védrines-Pinsan daughter who had become an Ursuline nun. AM, Preignac; Coudroy de Lille, Bordeaux, to Marie-José Godin, Paris, 17 January 1981.

14. AM, Barsac, death record 29 June 1802; AM, Bordeaux, Sainte-Croix Parish, marriage 8 April 1815.

15. Saint-Dominque, now called Haiti, covers the western third of the island Hispaniola in the Greater Antilles; Martinique is a small island in the Lesser Antilles group of the West Indies.

16. AM, Barsac, 29 June 1802. See Appendix E for original.

17. AM, Bordeaux, Sainte-Croix Parish, 8 April 1815.

18. Ministère de la Guerre des Armées (Terre) Service Historique, Vincennes, to the author, 17 February 1961: "Relevé de Services" no. 912. See Appendix E for copies of his service record and of his baptism.

19. AM, Barsac, 1813. See Appendix E for original.

20. Michel's inheritance of the Château is not documented but his gain and loss of it is remembered. Letter written in 1914 by Louis Rataboul of Bordeaux to G. E. Falgueroles, extract by Jean Védrine, Paris, to J.O.V., 23 March 1972.

21. AM, Bordeaux, Sainte-Croix Parish, 1815.

22. Interviews 1972, 1979.

23. Letter written in 1914 by Louis Rataboul of Bordeaux to G. E. Falgueroles, extract by Jean Védrine, to J.O.V., 23 March 1972. Several descendants in New Iberia, Louisiana, responded to my queries but none spoke of the tradition. According to Monsieur Védrine's extract, the children of the Védrines-Fournier marriage were: (1) Henry, born in France, married in Louisiana Madedmoiselle de Vezin niece of Monseigneur de Vezins, died in Louisiana; (2) Nice, died unmarried in 1911 at Monclar; (3) Aglaé, married Caussou of Beaufort; (4) Julie, married Charles

Feaugas, an attorney at Bordeaux; (5), (6), (7) two sons and one daughter who died unmarried; (8) Hortense, born 1828, a Catholic, died 1913. Hortense Védrines did not think that she was in any way related to the Védrines of Lot-et-Garonne. [It is true that none of her close Védrines relatives were there. Only those in America could be considered cousins.]

24. Donald J. Hébert, Southwest Louisiana Records, 28 volumes (Eunice, Louisiana: Hebert Publications, 1974-1981). See volumes IV, V, VI, VII, s.v. "Vidrine". Mary Elizabeth Sanders, Records of the Attakapas District, Louisiana (Lafayette, La: Mary Elizabeth Sanders, 1962), s.v. "Olivier" and "DeVezin".

Chapter X The Son Who Came to America

1. Jacqueline Olivier Vidrine, "Tracing Traditions", in Proceedings of the Eleventh Annual Geneological Institute (Baton Rouge: Louisiana Geneological and Historical Society, 1968), 36.

2. Jules R. Ashlock, editor (1932-1968), Gazette, Ville Platte, Louisiana.

3. The simple version included here was told to me first by the patriarch of the Monflanquin de Védrines family in 1972.

4. The Gazette (Ville Platte, Louisiana), 2 July 1932; Simone de la Souchère Delery, A la poursuite des Aigles (New York: Cercle du Livre de France, 1950), 184; Interviews in Evangeline Parish, La. (1956-1970), in France (1972, 1979).

5. Philippe de Védrines, Marly-le-Roi, to J.O.V., 1 June 1978.

6. Jean Védrine, Paris, to J.O.V., 21 December 1970; G. E. Mazerolles to Jean Védrine, quoted in Jean Védrine to J.O.V., February 1981. See Chapter II for other migrations to l'Agenais.

7. Philippe de Védrines to J.O.V., 1 June 1978.

8. There is often hesitancy in explaining the reason for the challenge or in naming the opponent; there is always certainty that the duel did occur. This is true in Louisiana and in France.

9. Philippe de Védrines to J.O.V., 1 June 1978, commented, "It seems difficult to see how two families carrying the same name, both contracting alliances with the local nobility and living 25 kilometers from each other would not be of the same origin."

10. Directeur Général des Archives de France, Paris, to D.W.V., 2 March 1961; AN, Paris, Colonies E 384, Dossier of Jean Baptiste Védrine, enseigne réformé a la Louisiane, 1763. Photocopies of the complete dossier provide little information beyond the last date of his active service, 1 July 1764, and confirmation of his continued presence in Louisiana afterwards. The dossier consists of only six small papers, three of them receipts for his pension of 200 livres for the years 1764, 1765, and 1768. The following documents list him among other officers in Louisiana: AN, Paris, Colonies D2c 59 (transcript in the Library of Congress, extract sent by W. DeVille, Easton, La., to J.O.V., 1961) for the years 1752-1759; AN, Paris, Colonies, D2c 4: I, Service Records (Microfilm at U.S.L.) for the years 1749-1751. However, remaining an officer does not preclude a duel in his past. For examples of other officer-duelists, see Natalia Maree Belting, Kaskaskia under the French Regime, (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1948), 86; and Louisiana Historical Quarterly (New Orleans: Louisiana Historical Society, 1926), IX, 152, for a de Verges duel in Illinois (1758); and O'Gilvy, Nobiliaire, 182, for a Lartigue duel in 1684 at Aiguillon, near Sainte-Livrade.

11. AN, Paris, Colonies E 384, D2c 4I, D2c 59.

12. L. Bourrachot, Agen, to J.O.V., 2 January 1978; O'Gilvy, Nobiliaire, 183-184; Charles-Armand de Gontaut, marquis, then duke de Biron, born 1663, died 1756. In 1704 he was a lieutenant-general; in 1734 he became a maréchal de France. Lalanne, Dictionnaire, s.v. "Biron."

13. AN, Paris, C 13:4, 1 January 1739, translated in MPA I. See M. A. Menier, E. Taillemite, and G. de Forges, Inventaire des Archives Coloniales: Correspondence à l'arrivée en provenance de Louisiane, Tome I: Articles C 13a 1 à 37 (Paris: Archives Nationales, 1976), for the years 1738-1740. Hereafter cited as Menier, Inventaire.

14. MPA I, 321. See also Menier Inventaire I, several entries for 1739 and 1740.

15. AN, Paris C 13:4, translated in MPA I: 385-387.

16. AN, C 13:4, translated in MPA I: 387.

17. After much research and discussion this definition is offered for aiguillette: a shoulder ornament worn by officers, made of braid or cord, with a metal tip on its loose ends. A junior officer's ornament was usually made of wool and either silver or gold threads. Aiguilletiers, makers and sellers of aiguillettes and other military uniform embellishments, had their own corporation until 1764. Lalanne, Dictionnaire, s.v., "Aiguilletiers." The wearing of distinctive uniforms became general during the latter part of the seventeenth century. Ogg, Europe, 236.

18. Menier, Inventaire I: 308-324.

19. Menier, Inventaire I: 323, 324 (C 13a 25: 141, 171). This ship belonged to Mr. Jung. MPA I: 420.

20. Menier, Inventaire I: 323-327.

21. Menier, Inventaire I: 321 (C 13a 25: 82, 86).

22. HMLO 19, year 1743, photocopy; Harriet McLoone, assistant Curator, Americana Manuscripts, Huntington Memorial Library, San Marino, California, to J.O.V., 5 May 1981.

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THE 22 REGIONS

REGION	SEAT OF REGION	DEPARTMENTS
ALSACE	Strasbourg	*Bas-Rhin* *Haut-Rhin*
AQUITAINE	Bordeaux	*Pyrénées Atlantiques* *Dordogne* *Gironde* *Landes* *Lot-et-Garonne*
AUVERGNE	Clermont-Ferrand	*Allier* *Cantal* *Puy-de-Dôme* *Haute-Loire*
BASSE-NORMANDIE	Caen	*Calvados* *Manche* *Orne*
BOURGOGNE	Dijon	*Côte-d'Or* *Nièvre* *Saône-et-Loire* *Yonne*
BRETAGNE	Rennes	*Côtes-du-Nord* *Finistère* *Ille-et-Vilaine* *Morbihan*
CENTRE	Orléans	*Cher* *Eure-et-Loir* *Indre* *Indre-et-Loire* *Loiret* *Loir-et-Cher*
CHAMPAGNE	Châlons-sur-Marne	*Aube* *Ardennes* *Haute-Marne* *Marne*
CORSE	Ajaccio	*Corse du Sud* *Haute-Corse*
FRANCHE-COMTÉ	Besançon	*Doubs* *Haute-Saône* *Jura* *Territoire de Belfort*
HAUTE-NORMANDIE	Rouen	*Eure* *Seine-Maritime*
LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON	Montpellier	*Aude* *Gard* *Hérault* *Lozère* *Pyrénées-Orientales*
LIMOUSIN	Limoges	*Corrèze* *Creuse* *Haute-Vienne*

REGION	SEAT OF REGION	DEPARTMENTS
LORRAINE	Metz	*Meurthe-et-Moselle* *Meuse* *Moselle* *Vosges*
MIDI-PYRÉNÉES	Toulouse	*Ariège* *Aveyron* *Gers* *Haute-Garonne* *Hautes-Pyrénées* *Lot* *Tarn* *Tarn-et-Garonne*
NORD PAS-DE-CALAIS	Lille	*Nord* *Pas-de-Calais*
PAYS DE LA LOIRE	Nantes	*Loire-Atlantique* *Maine-et-Loire* *Mayenne* *Sarthe* *Vendée*
PICARDIE	Amiens	*Aisne* *Oise* *Somme*
POITOU-CHARENTES	Poitiers	*Charente* *Charente-Maritime* *Deux-Sèvres* *Vienne*
PROVENCE-ALPES CÔTE D'AZUR	Marseille	*Alpes-Maritimes* *Alpes-de-Haute-Provence* *Bouches-du-Rhône* *Hautes-Alpes* *Var* *Vaucluse*
ILE DE FRANCE	Paris	*Essonne* *Hauts-de-Seine* *Paris* *Seine-et-Marne* *Seine-Saint-Denis* *Val-de-Marne* *Val d'Oise* *Yvelines*
RHÔNE-ALPES	Lyon	*Ain* *Ardèche* *Drôme* *Haute-Savoie* *Isère* *Loire* *Rhône* *Savoie*

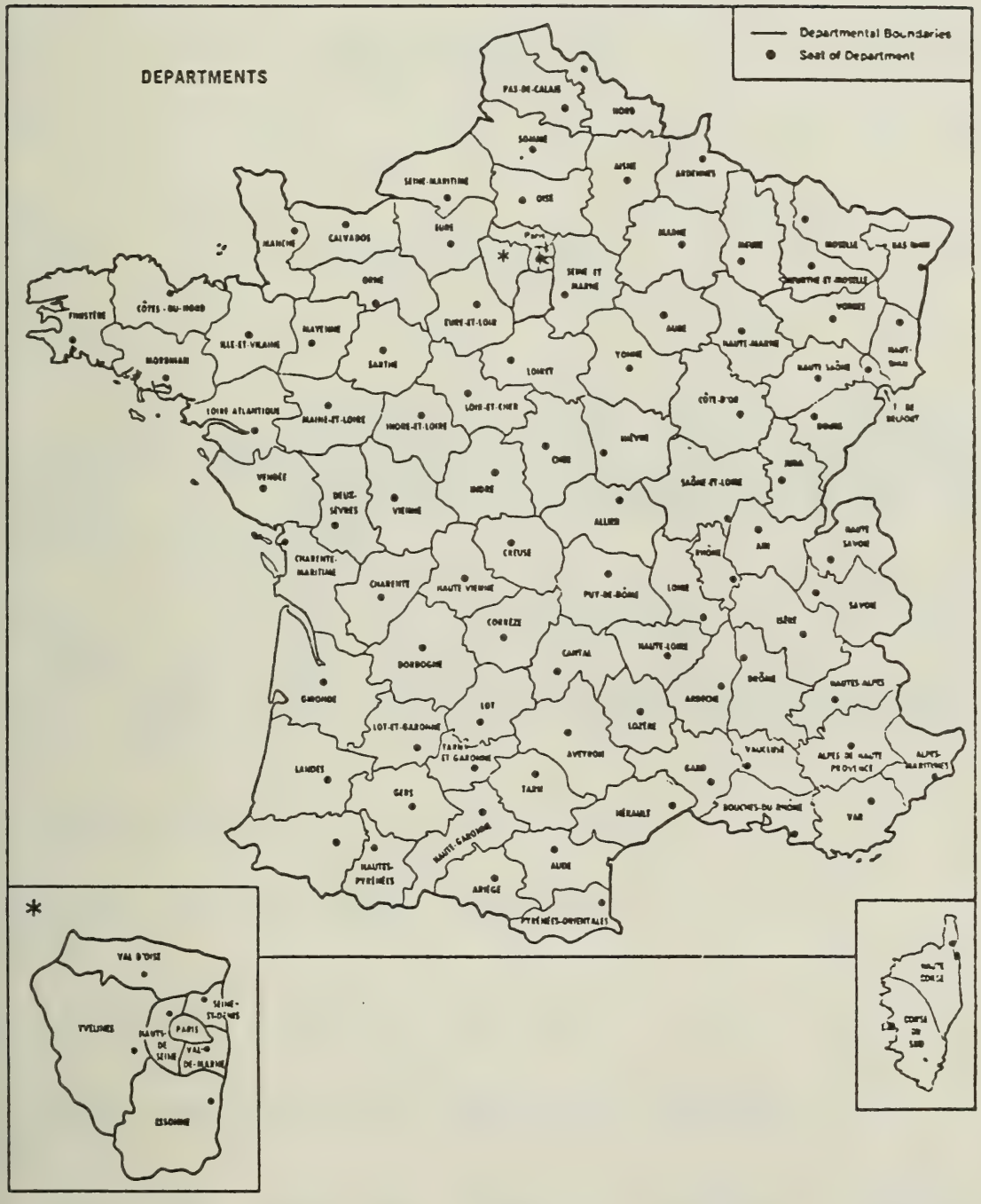
METROPOLITAN FRANCE

THE DEPARTMENTS

ZONE NO.°	DEPARTMENT	DEPARTMENT SEAT
01	AIN	Bourg
02	AISNE	Laon
03	ALLIER	Moulins
04	ALPES-DE-HAUTE-PROVENCE	Digne
05	HAUTES ALPES	Gap
06	ALPES-MARITIMES	Nice
07	ARDÈCHE	Privas
08	ARDENNES	Charleville-Mézières
09	ARIÈGE	Foix
10	AUBE	Troyes
11	AUDE	Carcassonne
12	AVEYRON	Rodez
13	BOUCHES-DU-RHÔNE	Marseille
14	CALVADOS	Caen
15	CANTAL	Aurillac
16	CHARENTE	Angoulême
17	CHARENTE-MARITIME	La Rochelle
18	CHER	Bourges
19	CORRÈZE	Tulle
20a	CORSE DU SUD	Ajaccio
20b	HAUTE CORSE	Bastia
21	CÔTE D'OR	Dijon
22	CÔTES-DU-NORD	Saint-Brieuc
23	CREUSE	Guéret
24	DORDOGNE	Périgueux
25	DOUBS	Besançon
26	DRÔME	Valence
27	EURE	Evreux
28	EURE-ET-LOIR	Chartres
29	FINISTÈRE	Quimper
30	GARD	Nimes
31	HAUTE-GARONNE	Toulouse
32	GERS	Auch
33	GIRONDE	Bordeaux
34	HÉRAULT	Montpellier
35	ILLE-ET-VILAINE	Rennes
36	INDRE	Châteauroux
37	INDRE-ET-LOIRE	Tours
38	ISÈRE	Grenoble
39	JURA	Lons-le-Saunier
40	LANDES	Mont-de-Marsan
41	LOIR-ET-CHER	Blois
42	LOIRE	Saint-Etienne
43	HAUTE-LOIRE	Le Puy
44	LOIRE-ATLANTIQUE	Nantes
45	LOIRET	Orléans
46	LOT	Cahors
47	LOT-ET-GARONNE	Agen

ZONE NO.°	DEPARTMENT	DEPARTMENT SEAT
48	LOZÈRE	Mende
49	MAINE-ET-LOIRE	Angers
50	MANCHE	Saint-Lô
51	MARNE	Châlons-sur-Marne
52	HAUTE-MARNE	Chaumont
53	MAYENNE	Laval
54	MEURTHE-ET-MOSELLE	Nancy
55	MEUSE	Bar-le-Duc
56	MORBIHAN	Vannes
57	MOSELLE	Metz
58	NIÈVRE	Nevers
59	NORD	Lille
60	OISE	Beauvais
61	ORNE	Alençon
62	PAS-DE-CALAIS	Arras
63	PUY-DE-DÔME	Clermont-Ferrand
64	PYRÉNÉES-ATLANTIQUES	Pau
65	HAUTES-PYRÉNÉES	Tarbes
66	PYRÉNÉES-ORIENTALES	Perpignan
67	BAS-RHIN	Strasbourg
68	HAUT-RHIN	Colmar
69	RHÔNE	Lyon
70	HAUTE-SAÔNE	Vesoul
71	SAÔNE-ET-LOIRE	Mâcon
72	SARTHE	Le Mans
73	SAVOIE	Chambéry
74	HAUTE-SAVOIE	Annecy
75	PARIS (ville de)	Paris
76	SEINE-MARITIME	Rouen
77	SEINE-ET-MARNE	Melun
78	YVELINES	Versailles
79	DEUX-SÈVRES	Niort
80	SOMME	Amiens
81	TARN	Albi
82	TARN-ET-GARONNE	Montauban
83	VAR	Toulon
84	VAUCLUSE	Avignon
85	VENDÉE	La Roche-sur-Yon
86	VIENNE	Poitiers
87	HAUTE-VIENNE	Limoges
88	VOSGES	Epinal
89	YONNE	Auxerre
90	TERRITOIRE DE BELFORT	Belfort
91	ESSONNE	Evry
92	HAUTS-DE-SEINE	Nanterre
93	SEINE-ST-DENIS	Bobigny
94	VAL-DE-MARNE	Créteil
95	VAL D'OISE	Pontoise

Each department has an archival depository in its principal city. If specifically requested, any departmental archives will provide a list of local professional geneologists; the archives do not do the actual search. The zone number is used for postal addresses.



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Appendix A

Guides to Archives

1. Church and Civil Records, Sainte-Livrade, 1579-1790, adapted from Tholin and Bonnat, Inventaire, with numbers corrected by L. Bourrachot, Documentaliste-archiviste, on my copy, October, 1972.

Canton of Sainte-Livrade, Arrondisement of Villeneuve

E. Supp. 3681 (1660) Survey of land and owners
CC. 1 (Seen at the city hall in Sainte-Livrade in Oct., 1972)

E. Supp. 3682 (1771
FF. 1 Civil case: GARY vs. LACOSTE

E. Supp. 3683 (1579-1583) Baptisms
GG. 1

E. Supp. 3684 (1594-1618) Baptisms
GG. 2

E. Supp. 3685 (1612-1699) Baptisms, Marriages
GG. 3

E. Supp. 3686 (1624-1658) Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals
GG. 4

E. Supp. 3687 (1659-1668) Baptisms
GG. 5

E. Supp. 3688 (1659-1674) Funerals
GG. 6

E. Supp. 3689 (1668-1673) Baptisms
GG. 7

E. Supp. 3690 (1674-1692) Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals
GG. 8

E. Supp. 3691 (1692-1698) Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals
GG. 9

E. Supp. 3692 (1699-1724) Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals
GG. 10

E. Supp. 3693 (1725-1740) Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals
GG. 11

E. Supp. 3694 (1741-1747) Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals
GG. 12

E. Supp. 3695 (1748-1766) Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals
GG. 13

E. Supp. 3696 (1767-1777) Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals
GG. 14

E. Supp. 3697 (1778-1790) Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals
GG. 15

2. Notarial Records, Sainte-Livrade, 1603-1869, adapted from Bonnat and Marquant, Répertoire Numerique de la Serie III E.

1603-1613	Olivier VERDIER
1614-1692	Pierre and Antoine LAFAIGE, father and son
1693-1752	Pierre and Jean MAURON, father and son
1762-1769	Jacques ROQUE
1773-1809	Antoine ROCHEFORT
1781-1797	_____ BARATET
1785-1791	Raymond DELLER
1809-1840	Léonard ROCHEFORT
1840-1842	_____ DELLER
1842-1851	_____ SINGLANDE
1852-1853	Léonard ROCHEFORT
1853-1869	_____ DALIDOU, père

3. Church Registers, Barsac, 1581-1779.
The following registers are in the office of the Mayor and are no longer available to researchers except in very rare cases. Microfilm copies are available at the Archives Départementales de la Gironde in Bordeaux.

1601-1610	
1612-1617	
1617-1628	
1630-1636	
1637-1639; 1666-1667	
1655-1663	Births
1655-1668	Marriages
1655-1668	Deaths
1668-1699	Births
1680-1684	Births, Marriages, Deaths
1670-1679	Deaths
1683-1689	Births, Marriages, Deaths
1692-1696	Births, Marriages, Deaths
1697-1779	In 20 volumes

These are deposited at the Archives Départementales, Serie 4E

1581-1588	(fragments)
1692-1696	
1700	(4E 1693)

4. Notarial Records of Barsac, 1533-1797, at the departmental archives in Bordeaux.

Adapted from Notaries IX: Table des noms de lieux, Serie 3 E, 97.9, with some corrections by Mme Hélène Avisseau, archivist.

1533-15_4	Jean de Tartas
1536	_____ Durancau
1558-1573	Jean Lalande
1578-1593	Mathieu de Tartas
15_7-1650	Daniel de Tartas
1598-1614	André de Roborel
1607-1635	Abraham de Lamothe
1628-1634	Jean de Chatry
1632-1635	_____ Despujoulx
1635-1669	Jean de Cassaigne
1644-1664	Pierre de Lacoste
1656-1697	Sever de Fontanieu
1668-1700	J. Pouget
1668-1718	_____ Roy
1695-1709	_____ Serres
1704-1722	_____ Pouget
1710-1738	_____ Serres
1722-1752	_____ Roborel
1725-1727	Bernard St.-Magne
1729-1768	_____ Bireton
1766-1801	_____ Seurin
1767-1774	Jacques Alex Bolle
1769-1802	_____ Bireton, fils

5. Church Registers (Etat-Civil), Preignac, 1644-1800 at Preignac (Gironde)

All of these registers are kept in the town hall, la Mairie, of Preignac and are available for research if written application is made for permission and appointment. Those listed below are those used during our 1972 visit. Others are available, but none earlier than 1644.

1644-1655	Births, Marriages, Deaths
1655-1665	Births, Marriages, Deaths
1665-1667	
1665-1710	Births, Marriages, Deaths
1704-1710	
1711-1713	
1714-1715	Extracts
1732-1739	
1740-1746	
1747-1770	
1757-1763	
1773-1800	Tables

6. Church Parishes, Bordeaux. Located at the Municipal Archives in Bordeaux, they are listed in Guide des Archives de la Gironde by A. Betgé-Brezetz with earliest year in collection. Some earlier records are deposited at the Archives Départementales de la Gironde.

GG 1-130.	Saint-André:	1654 (1601 at Archives départementales)
GG 131-138.	Saint-Christoly:	1737 (1635 at Archives départementales)
GG 139-176.	Sainte-Colombe:	1711 (1668 at Archives départementales)
GG 177-255.	Sainte-Croix:	1540
GG 256.	Saint-Dominique:	1791
GG 257-305.	Saint-Eloi:	1668
GG 306-418.	Sainte-Eulalie:	1618
GG 419-423.	Saint-Louis et Saint-Martial:	1791
GG 425-443.	Saint-Maixent:	1621
GG 444-500.	Saint-Michel:	1654
GG 501-520.	Saint-Nicolas-de-Graves:	1620
GG 521-525	Saint-Paul:	1791
GG 526-562.	Saint-Pierre:	1606
GG 563-634.	Saint-Projet:	1659
GG 635-652.	Notre-Dame-de-Puy-Paulin:	1661
GG 653-664.	Saint-Remy:	1678
GG 665-768.	Saint-Seurin:	1668 (1623 at Archives départementales)
GG 769-786.	Saint-Siméon:	1668
GG 787-800.	Jews:	1707
GG 801-828.	Protestants:	1676

Appendix B

Extracts of Records

1. Védrines notes

a. VEDRINES baptisms at Sainte-Livrade, December 1578 - January 1583 (AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3683)

Anthoine	10 August 1579	s/o Jehan VEDRINES and Anne SIMON
	Godparents:	Antoine SIMON dit Pichon; Jeanne MALBEC
	Present:	Arnaud VIDAL; Johan DELPY
Guilhen	27 January 1580	s/o Mathelin VEDRINES and Astrugue DALCHIE
Isabeau	23 May 1580	d/o Antoine VEDRINES
	Godparents:	Johan VEDRINES; Isabelle MIE
Janne	8 February 1581	d/o Johan VEDRINES and Helene EASGUET
	Godparents:	Geraud MIRAMOND; Janne DIABY spouse of GOUIFFIO
Mondeth	31 October 1581	d/o Jehan VEDRINES and Anneth SIMON
	Godparents:	[Guillaume?] DANTIN; Mondeth [SARRES?]
Guiraud	1581	s/o Antoine VEDRINES and Antonie PEYRAT
	Godparents:	Guiraud VEDRINES; Anne PAREY

Marguerite	20 November 1581	d/o Pierre VEDRINES and Jeanne JACOUBET
	Godparents:	Bernard JACOUBET; Marguerite _____
Georges(?) Catherine	1 April 1582	d/o Mathelin VEDRINES and Astrugue DALCHIE

b. VEDRINES Baptisms at Sainte-Livrade, 1594-1604 (AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3684)

Helix	1594	d/o Gerault VEDRINES and Ysabel VIGNES
	Godparents:	Pierre VEDRINES; Helix SARRES
Jeanne	24 January 1595	d/o Antoine VEDRINES and Anthonie MAURON
	Godparents:	Pierre MAURON; Jane GALTIO-T
Marguerite	1 March 1595	d/o Maturin VEDRINES and Astrugue DALCHE
	Godparents:	Jacques MIRAMONT; Marguerite SAROS
Geraude	May 1595	s/o Johan VEDRINES & Anne SIMON
	Godparents:	Antoine __AR__ and Geraude LACOMBE
Anne	February 1597	d/o Gerault VEDRINES and Izabel _____
	Godparents:	Jehan VISTORTE, notary royal; and _____ LEMOYNIE
Marguerite	5 June 1597	d/o Jehan VEDRINES and _____ MIRAMOND
	Godparents:	Jean VEDRINES; Marie Anne LAURENT
Jeanne	June 1597	d/o Jehan VEDRINES and Mondette ARMONC
	Godparents:	Jehan VEDRINES and Marguerite [LAUV_X?]

Anne	25 December 1597	d/o Pierre VEDRINES and Isabeau DUPLAYS
	Godparents:	Antoine JACOUBET and Anne DANTIN
Guilhen	15 January 1598	s/o Anthoine VEDRINES and Thonia [MAURON?]
	Godparents:	Guilian BACCLES and Nandine DUPONS
Guilaumete	14 March 1599	d/o Giraud? VEDRINES and Isabel MYE
	Godparents:	Francois VEDRINES and Guilhamete VEDRINES
Francois	1 August 1599	s/o Jehan VEDRINES and Anne SIMON
	Godparents:	François SIMON s/o Jehan dit Jouilat and Jeanne VEDRINES
Marie	(1600?)	d/o Geraud VEDRINES and Yzabel [VINYE?]
	Godparents:	Antoine FRAISSENGUE and Marie ROCHE
Marie	(1602?)	d/o Gerauld VEDRINES and Isabel MYE
	Godparents:	Jehan GARIES; Marie [__AY?]
Jean	8 December 1602	s/o Antoine VEDRINES and Anthonie MAURON
	Godparents:	Jean MAURON and Françoise MAURON
Francois	11 March 1603	s/o Pierre VEDRINES, marchand and Izabeau DUPLEIX
	Godparents:	Francois DUPLEIX and Marguerite VEDRINES
Elizabeth	June 1604	d/o Gerault VEDRINES and Isabel MIE

c. Extracts from later Sainte-Livrade baptismal records, 1605-1618

Jan. 1605 — Pierre VEDRINES and Marguerite COLOMBIER, godparents of Pierre [FULHE?] s/o Vidal and Elizabeth DONJON

June 1605 — Geraud VEDRINES and Marie GRANIE, godparents of Geraud [PILLOS?] and Janne GRANIE

Feb. 1606 — _____ VEDRINES and Isabeau DUPLIX, godparents of Isabeau COUGNARD d/o Guillaume and Peyrone ROCHE

Mar. 1606 — Guilhom VEDRINES son, and Tonie VEDRINES, daughter of Guirault and Isabel MIE

1608 — Pierre [VEDRINES?]

1608 — Geraud [VEDRINES?]

1608-1609 — Mathieu [VEDRINES?]

1609-1610 — Jehan VEDRINES s/o Guilhem and Johanne [REN__?]

1610 — Elizabeth VEDRINES d/o Pierre and Isabel DUPLEZ

1610 — Guilhen VEDRINES s/o Guillaume and Catherine BOYIE

1611 — Guigaume VEDRINES s/o Mathelin and Peyronne [GROULL___?]
Godfather: Guilhen VEDRINES

1612 — Marguerite VEDRINES d/o Gaulhen and Johanne [RENIRE? VIVIER?]

1613 — Gerauld VEDRINES s/o Maitre Francois and Suzanne SERRES
Godfather: Gerauld VEDRINES, marchand

1613 François VEDRINES s/o Matulin and Peyronne [BORDES?]
Godparents: [Jean VEDRINES?] and Jeanne BORDES

1613 François VEDRINES s/o Pierre and Ester MALAURE
Godparents: Francois VEDRINES; Marguerite CARBONNIER

1613 François VEDRINES s/o [Jehan?] and Catherine DUFAU
Godfather: François VEDRINES, consul

July 1614 Marye VEDRINES d/o Pierre and Isabel DUPLEX

Cecilia

1615 Jean VEDRINES s/o Guillaume and Jeanne VINCENTS

Marie

Francois

Jean

Guiraud [VICT__ or VEDRINE?]

Elizabeth

[1618?] Jean VEDRINES s/o George and Catherine GALTIE, habitants of the village of Maulex(?)
Godparents: Jean GAULTIE and Catherine VEDRINES

d. VIDRINE marriages

Few early records of marriages exist. The following are those seen of VEDRINES.

9 June 1612	François VEDRINES marries Suzanne SERRES who had been a Huguenot
1612-1613	Guillaume VEDRINES marries
23 June 1613	George VEDRINES marries Catherine GALTIE
August 1625	Antoine BARDET marries Marie VEDRINES
[July?] 1627	_____ FOURNEL marries Marguerite VEDRINES
September 1665	noble Charles CLAUDELS, Sieur de Marchot, marries dlle. Anne VEDRINES
September 1669	Guillaume MERCADIE marries Francoise VEDRINES
January 1674	Jean FAUX marries Jeanne VEDRINES

e. BAPTISMS: Sainte-Livrade Registers 1612-1699

1619 Helix MAZILIERE d/o Robert and Marguerite HOURADOU
Godfather: François VEDRINES
Two VEDRINES signatures

May 1619 Suzanne VEDRINNE d/o Pierre and Ester MALAURE

Sept. 1622 [Antoine?] [_____] s/o Guillaume and Jeanne _AFARTE
Godparents: François VEDRINES, consul, and Antonie [LACOSTE?]

1655 [first part of record is lost]
Godparents: Pierre VEDRINES, uncle, bourgeois, and Anne de RAYMOND de Salmond [Falmont?]
Three VEDRINES signatures

Nov. 1655 François ____SOLE
Godfather: Maître François VEDRINES ___ de la ville (signs F vedrines, parin)

Aug. 1656 Gabrielle [DIEMSTER?] d/o Jan and Janne GRANIE
Godparents: Francois VALLES (signs VALES) and Gabrielle VEDRINES
Four VEDRINES signatures

Aug. 1656 Catherine GRIFOUL d/o Guillaume and [Antoinette?] TREMOULIERE
Godmother: Catherine VEDRINES

Sept. 1656 Marie [GA_U_?] d/o Jean and Giraude VEDRINES
Godfather: Guillien VEDRINES

July 1659 Antoine GARDIE s/o Geraud and Marie TARTAS

f. FUNERALS: Sainte-Livrade Registers 1624-1674

10 Aug. 1638 Jeanne VEDRINES age 65

24 Nov. 1639 Guiraude VEDRINES age 60, wife of de VILOT de LABRUNIE

21 Oct. 1640 Mathieu dit Matalie VEDRINES age 36

5 Nov. 1650 Pierre VEDRINES age about 2½ years, s/o Gerand and _____ DAMOY

27 June 1651 Jeanne VEDRINES age about 2 months, d/o François & Catheline de VILLENEUFVE

July 1652 _____? Mentions LACOSTE beaufrere of [Mr. VEDRINES?]

July 1652 _____[PAUILLOT?]. Mentions Isabeau VEDRINES.

24 Dec. 1655 unbaptized infant of Sieur VEDRINES, master potier d'estans

21 April 1657 Mssr. François VEDRINES juge civil de cette ville, age about 60 years, buried in front of chapel St. Jean, in the church of Sainte-Livrade. LACOSTE signs

25 Aug. 1673 ____ DUBERNAT s/o ____ and ____ PUJOL Godparents: ___ DEBESE and ___ DESCAMP
One signs "franchon de vedrines"

2. Miscellaneous extracts from early records of Sainte-Livrade.

a. Familiar names
The following names similar to old family names found in early Louisiana or Saint Landry Parish, Louisiana, were seen in documents of Sainte-Livrade dated before 1584:

MAZELLIERE	MIRAMOND
VEILHON	VERDIER
CARRIERE	PRADEL
VIDAL	VINCENS
GALTIER	MURAT
OLIVIE	COMPAGNOT
LAFOND	[GARRIG__?]
BOUTET	[MANUEL?]

b. GAUTIER

The GAUTIE (and variations) family name appears frequently in the Sainte-Livrade registers, 1578-1583 (AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3683). In the earliest book, 1578-1583 (AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3683) these GAUTIE (GALTIER, GALTIE) infants were baptized:

Bernat	Luque
Jeanne	Anthonie
Jehan	Marguerite
Jehan	Antoine
Arnauld	Janne
François or Françoise	Pierre
Bernat	Françoise (1583)

Several GAUTIER (GAUTIE, GAULTIER) names appear later on the Sainte-Livrade records.

Catherine, spouse of Pierre LACOMBE (1659)
Pierre dit Petiot, spouse of Catherine de BELOT (1661)
Jean, spouse of Françoise BECHETE (1667)
Jean, spouse of Louise BORDAT (1673)
Françoise, spouse of Etienne LABRUNIE (1674)

About one generation older are these GAUTIE people:

Catherine, married June, 1613 Georges VEDRINES, inhabitants of Maulex (?) in 1617.
Jean, born 1595, son of Antoine GAULTIE and Antonie de PREGIA
Antoine born ca. 1601, died 1651 age 50, probably spouse of Francoise MALPERTUS
Jean, born ca. 1605, died 1673 age 68

There is one Jean GAUTIE dit Petiot who died in 1648, at Maury (?) or Maux (?). The age given on his funeral record is ninety years.

c. RAYMOND

In the baptismal index for the 1578-1583 period of Sainte-Livrade, there are no RAYMOND (nor FALMONT) babies named (E Supp. 3683) but the listing for 1594 to 1605 (3684, sec. I) has:

Clamens 87a. 1599 May 30 s/o Jehan RAYMOND and Catherine FORT
Godparents: Clement du MOIZ du prayssac and Marguerite LACAZE de duminiat

Jean 122a 1600 Dec. 11 s/o Jean RAYMOND and Catherine FORT
Godparents: Jean CLAUDEL and Jeanne BRASSET

Jeanne 186b 1603 May 11 d/o Jehan RAYMOND and Catherine FORT
Godparents: Anthoyne MURAYLL of parish Launiac and Jeanne HUCHARD

Other RAYMOND names appearing in that register are:

Jeanne RAYMOND and ___ BOI (BOY), parents of Guilhon baptized 17 March 1595 (f.19b)

The name RAYMOND shows up not far from Sainte-Livrade:

Recognition in favor of Pierre de RAYMOND de Falmon, écuyer...for lands sises in the jurisidiction of Monflanquin (E Supp. 3423, II.5. 1609-1620) Inventaire II: 255

Antoine de RAYMOND shows up as godfather of Marie GARDES in the parish of Saint-Martin de Montagnac, canton of Monflanquin. (E Supp. 3436, GGI. 1637-1638)

The RAYMOND de Falmont family is listed as one appearing in the parish of St. Pierre d'Anthe and its annexes Saint-Caprais de Sombal and Saint-Foy, in the canton of Tournon, between 1604 and 1704 (E Supp. 3642, GG16). One 1607 record concerns the blessing of a church bell, and its godparents are Venture de FALMONT, Sieur de FAGES and his wife Jeanne de MARSANEZ. In the same parish during 1707-1747 the de RAYMON de Fages is named as one appearing in the registers. (E Supp. 3643, GG 17).

Later, in Sainte-Livrade:

1655	Anne de RAYMOND de Falmond [or Salmond] is godmother to a VEDRINES grandchild
17 March 1659	Catherine RAYMOND and Jean BARDET are parents of Catherine, baptized.

A ROCHE-RAYMOND connection appears in Sainte-Livrade long before the 1704 marriage of Marguerite ROCHE's grandson, Jean VEDRINE. Although the alliances have not been untangled, this one may be useful in further research:

The funeral record of Demoiselle Marguerite RAYMOND, 9 July 1659, wife of Monsieur ROCHE Pontous, criminal judge. She was buried in church, in the tomb of Mr. de ROCHE. This may be proved later a family link. This ROCHE Pontous was very probably a brother or half-brother of Marguerite ROCHE, whose father is identified as Jehan ROCHE Pontous and ROCHE dit Pontous. Long after his death, his name is written Jean ROCHE de Pontous (1683).

d. REYRE

The REYRE family must have been part of the Sainte-Livrade area for several generations, since six children are listed in the Baptismal Register 1578-1583:

27 Sept. 1579	Olivier	s/o Jean REYRE and Antonie VEDRINES Godparents: Olivier C__ANTE and Antonie REYRE
1580	Claude	s/o Antoine REYRE and Janne BOURRASSAT
1580	Anne	d/o Johan REYRE and [Marquesa?] BERNAD Godmother: Anne DANTIN, damoiselle
1580-1581	[Peyronne?]	
1581	[Peyronne?]	
1581	Anthoine	

A comtemporary of Marguerite ROCHE's son Antoine REYRE was another Antoine REYRE, but not indication of relationship has been seen:

1668 Antoine REYRE and Jeanne CHARRETIER baptised their child. It is noted that Antoine is a "merchant of Sainte-Livrade" and that his brother François is the godfather.

e. ROCHE

ROCHE and BERNAUD (etc.) names noted in Sainte-Livrade's Earliest Baptismal Book, 1578-1583 (AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3683)

July 1579 Marguerite COLOMBIER ep. of Jehan ROCHE, marchant. Godmother of a DALIDOU and LAPEYRE child.

Aug. 1579 Peyronne ROCHE, godmother of a COSSONOT child. J. ROCHE present.

1579 de BENAUD, priest

(Oct.?) 1579 Anthoine de BERNARD, godfather of Marie CHAUBARD

(May?) 1580 Baptism of Andiette ROCHE d/o Maistre François ROCHE, sergeant royal
Godparents: Sire Janot ROCHE marchand; Andieth SALRAINS, spouse of Bernady CHAUBARD [marchant]

25 April 1580 Baptism of Marguerite ROCHE d/o Maistre François ROCHE, sergeant royal
Godparents: noble François de HEBRARD, Seigneur de Mazieres [palandry?] and Marguerite de COLOMBIER, spouse of Janot ROCHE.
Present: Johan BENAUD, priest; JACOUBET, consul

1580 Anthonie de COLOMBIER, godmother to Jehan DANY s/o Pierre

14 July 1580 Baptism of Pierre LAFAYE s/o Francois LAFAYE and Peyronne ROCHE
Godparents: Pierre VEDRINES; Peyronne de BERNAD

17 Aug. 1580 Baptism of Anthoine COLOMBIER s/o Anthoine COLOMBIER and Marguerite HEBRARD
Godparents: Sire Janot ROCHE, marchant; Dlle Anthonieth de PREISSAS, dlle de MAZIERE, spouse of Bernaud [__ANDY?]

18 Oct. 1580 Baptism of Antoine ROCHE s/o Sire Jehan ROCHE marchant and Marguerite de COLOMBIER
Godparents: Antoine ROCHE marchand, son of the father; Anthoinee CHAMBARD

5 Nov. 1580 Baptism of Estienne SERRES s/o Jehan SERRES and Francoise COLOMBIER

30 Oct. 1580 Baptism of François de BERNAT s/o Francois de BERNAT
Godparents: ____ ____; Antonie de BERNAT

1580 Baptism of Anne REYRE d/o Jehan REYRE and [Marguesa?] BERNAD

Nov. 1580 Baptism of Johan VISTORTE s/o Jaymes VISTORTE and Marguerite ROCHE
Godparents: Jannot ROCHE marchand; Jeanne ROCHE ep. of Bernard JACOUBET

1 Dec. 1580 Baptism of Johan VERDIER s/o Anthoine VERDIER and Catherine du BERNAD
Godparents: Johan de BERNAD s/o deceased Olivier de BERNARD; Marguerite VERDIER widow of deceased Olivier de BERNARD.
Present: G. JACOUBET; ___ VEDRINES

12 Feb. 1581 Baptism of Marguerite JACOUBET d/o Bernat JACOUBET and Jeanne ROCHE
Godparents: Antoine CARBONIER and Marguerite [MITA_EUR?] spouse of Antoine ROCHE

1581 Baptism of Jeanne BENAULT d/o Beraud BENAULT and Jeanne GOUISSIT

25 Aug. 1581 Baptism of Charlotte ROCHE d/o Antoine ROCHE and Marguerite BAISSIER
Godparents: Jehan ROCHE marchand; Charlotte "de las bordy"

Aug. 1581 Baptism of ____ MONPH_RY
Present: JACOUBET; ROCHE

10 Dec. 1581 Baptism of Françoise COLOMBIER d/o Huguet COLOMBIER and Isabel MALBER
Godparents: Johan BARROT; Francoise [DEL__P?]

1 Mar. 1582 Baptism of Jehan BENAUD s/o Estienne BENAUD and Anthonie ____

1582 Baptism of Johan VERDIE s/o Anthoine and Marie ROCHE
Godparents: Johan VERDIE; Marguerite VERDIE

20 May 1582 Baptism of Antoine ROCHE s/o Maistre Johan ROCHE and Marguerite COLOMBIER
Godparents: Antoine de BERNAD, procureur d'Agen; Marguerite ROCHE

22 Aug. 1582 Baptism of Peyronne JACOUBET d/o Bernard JACOUBET and Janne ROCHE
Godparents: Pierre VEDRINES and Peyronne JACOUBET, ep. of Olivier LAFAIGE

4 Nov. 1582 Baptism of Louise ROCHE d/o Johan ROCHE dit Jantet and Ester LAFAURIR
Godparents: Sire Jehan ROCHE, vieux consul; Louise MATHIEU, maternal grandmother.

ROCHE baptisms extracted from the Baptismal Register, Sainte-Livrade, 1594-1605 (AD, L-et-G, E Supp. 3684)

(1594-1595?) Marguerite d/o Jean ROCHE Ponthou and Blaise de BER[NAD]
Godparents: Antoine de BENAUD procureur au siège d'Agen and Marguerite COLOMBIER

(1595-1596) Blaise d/o ROCHE (from Index)

10 Nov. 1596 Jan or Johanne c/o Johan ROCHE and Estelle LAFOURIE
Godparents: Antoine LAVILLE, marchand of Monclar; Jehane ROCHE spouse of Bernard JACOBET

29 Mar. 1598 Marie d/o Johan ROCHE du Pontou and Blaize du BENARD
Godparents: Antoine _ _ _ _ ; Marie DUPONT

(1598?) Anne d/o Jehan ROCHE and Anne [COGUL?]
Godparents: Jehan MALAURE; Esther MALAURE

12 April 1599 Guillaume s/o Jehan ROCHE dit ponthous and Blaze de BERNARD
Godparents: Guillaume de BERNARD, marchand of Villeneuve; Marie ROCHE

1599 Jean s/o Jehan ROCHE dit Jehanet* and Ester LAFA___RIE
Godparents: Jean LAFA___RIE surgeon royal of Monclar; Marguerite ROCHE ep. of Antoine LAVILLE marchand of Mt. Clare

1600? Mondine d/o Jehan ROCHE
Ponthouse and Blasie du BERNAUD
Godparent: Jehan ROCHE Jantet;* Mondine LABORIE ep. of Guilhen de BERNAUD

*Jehanet, Jantet, and Jehantet are probably all the same dit name used for these men named Jehan.

11 Nov. 1601 Marguerite d/o Jean ROCHE dit Pontous and Blasie du BERNART
Godparents: Maistre Jean [JALACHON?] apoticaire of Agen; Marguerite _____

7 June 1603 Jeanne d/o Jehan ROCHE and Anne [COGUL? VOGUL?]
Godparents: ____ COLOMBIER; Jeanne VIGNIER

20 Jan. 1604 Anthoine s/o Jehan ROCHE dit PONTOU and Blasie de BERNARD
Godparents: Antoine LAVILLE marchand de Monclar; Mondine de BERNARD spouse of ___MALBER

1594 - 1605 Bernard ROCHE, "recteur et Archeprêtre" made the baptismal index which covers these years in Sainte-Livrade. Bernard was named rector of the parochial church of Sainte-Livrade and its annex Saint-Martin de Plomiar, according to a note he signs on 8 August 1599. Although ROCHE, recteur, signed the baptism in 1601 of Marguerite, daughter of Jean ROCHE of Pontous and Blaise de BERNARD, it may have been only as a priest and not as part of the family.

Other Mentions of ROCHE

Oct.	1584	ROCHE signs baptism
1 May	1595	Jehan ROCHE de pontsou is the godfather; Anthoinette de Pressas dlle de MAZIER is godmother. (One Anthoinette de PRESSAS is wife of noble Francois de HEBRARD, Sieur de Rocgnal et de Paladrain at baptism of their daughter Jeanne de HEBRARD in November 1597.)
9 May	1596	Jeanne ROCHE wife of Bernard JACOBET, godmother of a du BERNARD-LACOSTE baby.
June	1596	Peyrine ROCHE and Philippe __ENAUD are parents of the __ENAUD baby baptized. The priest ROCHE says, "Peyrine ma soeur"
Sept.	1596	ROCHE signs
5 Sept.	1597	Sire Jehan ROCHE "consul de la psst. ville" [Sainte-Livrade] and Dlle Marguerite de [blank] are godparents of a JULHIA-GRANIE boy, Jehan.

Feb. 1598 Johan_et ROCHE and Blazie de BERNARD are godparents

20 April 1598 Jehan ROCHE Pontous, bourgeois, godfather of Jean CASTES or COUSTAS

1598 Jehan ROCHE dit Pontous and Francoise de [TREU_Y?] godparents of Francois de BERNAT

1600? Marie ROCHE and Antoine FRAISE_SIGNE, godparents of Marie VEDRINES, d/o Geraud VEDRINES and Isabel VINGE

1600 Antoine ROCHE and Catherine de BE_ARD, godparents of Antoine REYRE s/o Jean REYRE

1600-1602 Jean ROCHE (s/o Jean ROCHE dit Pontous) and Blasie du BERNARD, godparents of Guillaume s/o Andre MALBEC and Naudine de BERNARD

Sept. 1602 Marie ROCHE, deceased, and Antoine [VERDIER? MURAT?] are parents of infant Jehan. Godparents: Jehan [VERDIER?] and ____ VISTORTE. VEDRINES signs.

4 Jan. 1604 Marguerite [ROCHE?] and Antoine [LAVILLE?], godparents of Francois SIMON s/o Jehan SIMON and Anne BOURGEN

June 1604 Marguerite ROCHE de ____ , godmother of Elizabeth VEDRINES d/o Geraud VEDRINES and Isabel MIE

f. SIMON

SIMON is a name rarely found in the earliest Sainte-Livrade register. These pre-date the seventeenth century.

1579 Antoine SIMON dit Pichon(?) is Antoine VEDRINES' godfather.

1579 Jean SIMON is godfather of Johan M___AC [MOUSSAC?]

1580 Jehan SIMON, son of Jehan is baptized.
His godmother is Mondet SARRAS [SERRES?], wife of Anthoine SIMON.

1581 Guilhen SIMON, son of Francois and Anthonie [DEME__?], is baptized.

1581 François SIMON, son of Jehan and Catherine DELPUY, is baptized. His godmother is Anne SIMON, wife of Jehan VEDRINES. Gera__d VEDRINES is present.

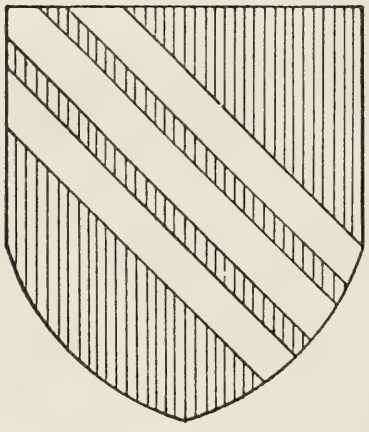
1581 Mondeth SARRAS is godmother of Mondine VEDRINES, but this one seems to be wife of Vidal _____ .

No records for 1584 - 1593.

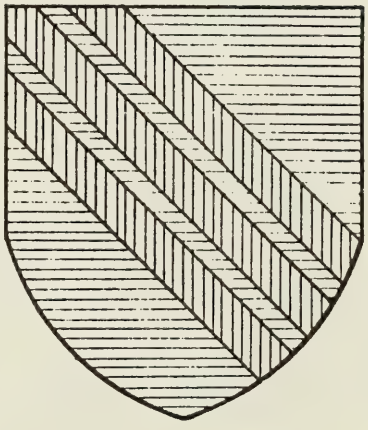
1594 Baptism of a daughter of Guilhen BOUIE(?) and Anthonie(?) SIMON.

1595 Pierre SIMON is godfather of Pierre ___ARY.

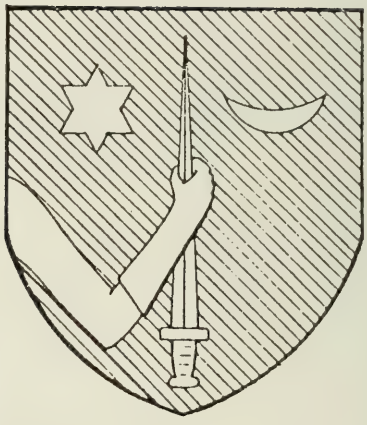
1598 Isabel SIMON, daughter of Johanot and Isabel DUPLAINT [DUPLAISE?] is baptized.



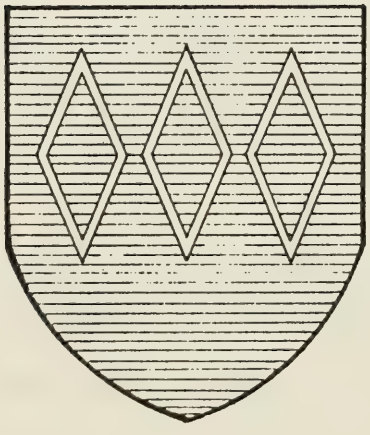
de Védrines
Guyenne



Was this an earlier coat-of-arms of the Agenais Védrines or of a closely related family ?



de Védrines
l' Agenais



de Védrin
Seigneurs de Chance

de Veirines
Le Puy

Designed by Nicole Vidrine Kroeger, based on descriptions from C. R. Humphrey-Smith, Middlesex, England, to D.W.V. 31 August 1961; L'Amorial français: Receuil général des Familles nobles de France (Paris, 1931); Interviews in Lot-et-Garonne, 1972 and 1979.

Appendix C

Other Védrines Names

These VEDRINES names, and similar names, which do not appear in the text are from the limited research done in archival records dated prior to 1550, and from other sources. Citations follow each entry, in parentheses.

1496-1498. Bernard VEDRINES, consul, witness to a notarial act at Monflanquin (L-et-G) sometime between those dates, (AD, L-et-G, Tholin, Inventaire Sommaire.... II:251)

1507 Ademar de VEYRINES, damoiseau, purchaser; Gerard GUARREL is vendor. Pierre de CALVIMONT, Chevalier (first of the name, settler in Perigord according to a title in the year 1507 cited by the historian Belle Forés) consents to the sale. (O'Gilvy, Nobiliaire de Guienne et de Gascogne, I:182)

1539 Feb. 26. Jean, son of Claude VEIRINES, Sieur of said place, écuyer, paid homage to the king 26 February 1539. His brother Odon seems to have been his heir. Odon's son Jean VEIRINES, Sieur de L'hern had a son Antoine, Sieur of said place. Antoine's son Claude VEIRINES Seigneur of the said place and resident there (1641), recognized as noble 23 September 1669. His arms: "D'or au griffon de gules couronne' de meme". Correspondence of Jean de Védrines of Lot-et-Garonne.

1550 De Belvèze de VEDRINES, councilman to the diocese, count of Brioude (Mobirulus, Le Livre D'Or du Velay.)

1550 De Belvèze de VEDRINES, Antoine, diocesan councilman (chanoine) and Count de Brioude (Laine [editor-publisher?] Archives de la noblesse de France, IV.)

? François de MIREMONT, écuyer, seigneur de VEDERINES, de la Chapelle, etc. (Mobirulus, Le Livre D'Or du Velay, citing Hozier)

1569 September 12. "Reception comme procurer en la cour: ...Jacques VEDRINES, ..." (AD, Haute-Garonne [Toulouse]. B. 63 régistre. fo. 402, 403, 404)

1612 June 6, François VEDRINES marries in Sainte-Livrade Suzanne SERRES who had been a Huguenot.

1613 June 23, Georges VEDRINES marries in Sainte-Livrade Catherine GALTIE

1635 Pierre de VEDRINES, Sr. de Laborie, royal notary, married Jeanne LEFORT. One son, Pierre, married in 1663 Aimée de JEANMARTY; another, also named Pierre, was pastor of a Reformed church. He married Antoinette de BECAYS de LACAUSSADE and they emigrated to Holland. (Philippe de Védrines, to J.O.V., 1 June 1978).

1640 Pierre de VEDRINES, royal doctor of medicine, was in the army of Italy. (Philippe de Védrines to J.O.V., 1 June 1978)

1655 October 21, Gérard VEDRINES, avocat au conseil privé du Roi marries Anne VERGOING (AM, Bordeaux)

1670 Martial de VERINE, born about 1670, a mason hired by the king, originally from Chateau Pois, diocese of Limoges, in France. Died at Port Royal (Acadia, now Nova Scotia) 28 June 1703. (Bona Arsenault, Histoire et Généalogie des Acadiens [2 volumes: Quebec: Le Conseil de la Vie française en Amerique, 1965] I:522.)

1693 Annet VEDRINE (seventh generation ancestor of Jean VEDRINE, native of Lyon and resident of Bois-Colombes in 1970) was born in Fernoel, department of Puy de Dome, Massif central, in the year 1693. (Letter, Jean Védrine, Paris, to J.O.V., 23 October 1970)

1696 Pierre VEDRINES, Lieutenant in Le Justice Royale of Puymirol. (Philippe de Védrines to J.O.V., June 1978)

1699 Request to the chatelain du THEIL by Gabriel VEDRYNE, concerning seizure of sheep of Jean de DOUGIERA. Leonard CONSTANTY, greffier of the chatellenie would not listen, so Gabriel VEDRYNE asks for an inquest to prove his innocence. Deposition for nomination of experts for a division of possessions (biens) between Maitre Guillaume VEDRINE, Sieur de la Guéraine; Elizabeth VEDRINE, wife of Jean LENOBLE Sieur de Boisqueraud, and Gilberte VEDRINE, wife of Maistre Louis LEJEUNE:

"...1699. - VEDRYNE. - Requête au châtelain du Theil par Gabriel Vedryne: celui-ci ayant fait saisir quelques brebis et une chèvre pour le paiment de 9 "cartons" seigle dus par Jean Dedougiera, les parents de ce dernier reprirent de vive force au sergent les animaux saisis; en outre, "pour eviter la punition de leur crime", ils d'adresserent a Leonard Constanty, greffier de la châtellenie, lequel ne voulut entendre que les dépositions "de gens de peu et de mauvaise vie"; en conséquence, ledit Gabriel Vedryne demande une enquête pour prouver son innocence. - Procès verbal de nomination d'experts pour un partage de biens entre maître Guillaume Védrine, sieur de la Gueraine, demoiselle Elisabeth Védrine, femme de Jean Lenoble, sieur du Boisqueraud, et demoiselle Gilberte Védrine, femme de Me Louis Lejeune." (AD, Creuse [Guéret] Série E, Titres de famille: E. 1123. Letter from Le Directeur des Services d' Archives de la Creuse to J.O.V., 17 January 1972).

1715 Francois VEDERANINE, master mason "Deux 5es de maison en La rue confort a Lyon:1715." (Bétencourt, Noms Féodaux de ceux qui ont tenu fiefs en France [Second Edition], Régistre 496; Piece 223.)

1718 March 13, birth of Marc VEDRINES, Sr. de Cadillac, son of Ellie VEDRINES and Marguerite BECOUY, at Monflanquin, department of Lot-et-Garonne. An ensign in the cavalry, Regiment of Languedoc, in 1743; made lieutenant 1744; made captain in 1761. He was put on half-pay in 1763 and received a pension in 1770 as former captain of the Languedoc Dragoons. He had participated in campaigns in Brittany and Normandy in 1759 and 1760, and in Westphalia (Germany) in 1761 and 1762. (Ministère de Guerre, Etat-Major de l'Armée , Service Historique, Vincennes, to J.O.V. 17 Feb. 1961. no. 909.)

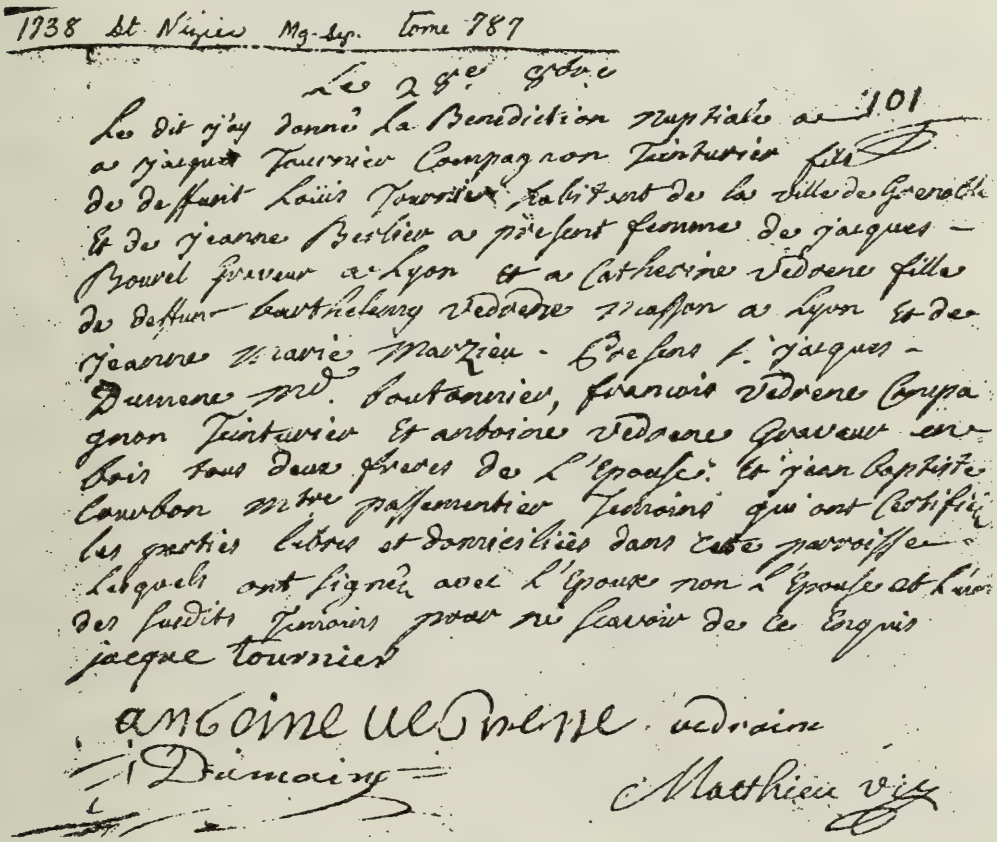
1721 November 2, birth of Pierre VEDRINES de la Barthe at Lousson (L-et-G). Served in the army from 1739 to 1776; during which he took part in four campaigns. For four years he held the rank of colonel of the police militia. He was given a pension by l'Assemblée Nationale in 1791. (Ministère de Guerre, Etat-Major de l'Armée , Service Historique, Vincennes, to J.O.V., 17 Feb. 1961.

1731 October 21, birth of Emmanuel Michel de l'HERMET de la Védrine, at St. Chely d'Apcher (department of Lozère). He received a pension in 1775 as a gendarme of the company of gendarmes of la Garde ordinaire [a corps of troops specially charged with the defence of a sovereign] of the King. (Ministère de Guerre, Etat-Major de l'Armée, Service Historique, Vincennes, to J.O.V., 17 Feb. 1961.)

Late 17th century, early 18th century: VEDRINE families were found in Fernoel (near Giat), Issoire, and St. Sauves (near La Bourboule) - all in the province of Auvergne, in the department of Puy de Dome. (Monsieur Sève, director, AD, Puy de Dome [Clermont-Terrand] to J.O.V., 30 March 1972.)

1738 October 28, Jacques TOURNIER, campagnon teinturier, son of deceased Loüis TOURNIER [who was] resident of the city of Grenoble, and of Jeanne BERLIER [who is] now wife of Jacques BOUREL, graveur at Lyons, marries Catherine VEDRENE daughter of deceased Barthelemy VEDRENE

mason at Lyons, and of Jeanne Marie MARZIEU. Present: Jacques DUMENE, master boutonnier; Francois VEDRENE compagnon teinturier and Antoine VEDRENE graveur en bois both brothers of the bride, and Jean Baptiste [COURBON or BOURGON] master passementier.



Signed: jacque tournier; antoine vedrene [the d looks like a b]; vedraine; j Dumain; Matthieu, vic [aire]. (AM de Lyon, tome 787)

1838 Marriage of Raymond de VEDRINES (1811-1895) to Léontine de GERVAIN (1811-1881). Her dowry included the Château de Mouchac in the department of Gironde. (Col. du Serech de St. Avit, to J.O.V., 6 Nov. 1977.)

1864 August 21. That day was born a VEDRINES at Saint Martin-de-Roubaux, department of Lozère. He was one of nineteen children of whom several left their birthplace to go to other departments in France and others emigrated to foreign countries including Canada and "America". This one born in 1864 went to Algeria. (René Védrines, Saint Raphael, to J.O.V., 23 April 1981.)

1809-1854 VEDRENNE Louis H. Nicholas (F.)
"Vedrenne, venu de France à la Nouvelle-Orleans en 1850, très probablement exilé par Napoleon, professait à l'encoignure des rues Craps et Independance - singulière adresse pour un professeur! -Poete, il écrit surtout des poésies d'amour, que la Réforme publie sous le titre "Littérature indigene" Il meurt le 3 mai 1854 à la Nouvelle-Orleans." (Edward LaRocque Tinker, Ecrits de langue française en Louisiane au XIX siècle, Paris, 1932)

1972 In Paris, a shop named VEDRENNE at 9 rue St. Roch and known for some years earlier for its original designs of umbrellas had been sold. The proprietors knew nothing about the family of the original owners, but they thought that the shop had been sold at the death of Monsieur VEDRENNE because he had no heirs to succeed him. (Visit, 1972)

Appendix D

Places Called Védrine

VEDRINE: The family origin was in the region of Cantal, where places of that name - which gave birth to the surname - occur often. The halting places of those migrants, which can be marked by the families of that name that have stayed in sufficient numbers, are around Brioude [dept. Haute-Loire], and in the areas around Issoire and Bourg-Lastic [dept. Puy-de-Dôme]. One VEDRINE family of Lyon came originally from Creuse. The great-great grandfather was from Semur. (Albert Dauzat, Noms de Familles de France, 338)

Le Chateau de Védrines, once an arrière-fief of Léotoing, belonged first to that house [of VEDRINES]. It is near Blesle in the arrondisement of Brioude. [An arrière-fief was one held of, or dependant on, another higher fief.] (Mobirulus, Le Livre d'Or du Velay.)

Chateau de Védrines at Lorlanges (dept. Haute-Loire).

Védrenne, hameau d'origine (departments of Corrèze, Creuse, and Haute-Vienne)

Védrine, diverse hamlets in the Cantal department [province of Auvergne]
(Albert Dauzat, Dictionnaire Etymologique des Noms de Famille et Prénoms de France. Paris: Librairie Larousse, 1951).

The hameau called Vedrenne, near Limoges, where an elderly man said that the only VEDRENNEs he had heard of lived at Ambasac, seventeen kilometers away.

Védrines, a commune (dept. of Cantal); La Vedrinette, name of a farm of the commune named Védrines (Philippe de Védrines, Paris, to J.O.V., 28 May, 1978)

Védène or Védènes, department of Vaucluse, on the Crillon Canal. Is generally regarded as the site of the ancient Roman Vindalium. (Paul Joanne, Dictionnaire Géographique et Administratif de la France, Paris: Librarie Hachette, 1901)

Védène (Sorgue de), or Canal of Vaucluse. A river of the department of Vaucluse. (Ibid.)

Verderonne, in the canton Liancourt, arrondisement of Clermont, department of Oise. Part of the church in this commune dates from the thirteenth century. (Ibid.)

Verderet, a waterway in the valley of Graisvaudan, a branch of the Isère River, in the department of Isère. (Ibid.)

Videronne or Vidrezonne, a small stream in the department of Loire. (Ibid.)

(La) Vedrenne, a commune of Chaumeil in the department of Corrèze. (Ibid.)

(La) Vedrenne, communes [sic] of Egletons and of Roziers-Egletons, department of Corrèze. (Ibid.)

(La) Vedrenne, commune of Gumond, department of Corrèze. (Ibid.)

(La) Vedrenne, commune of St-Julien-près-Bort, department of Corrèze. (Ibid.)

(La) Vedrenne, commune of St-Léger-la-Montagne, near a town named Bersac, department of Haute-Vienne. (Ibid.)

Vedrignans, a commune of Saillagouse, department of Pyrénées-Orientales. (Ibid.)

(La) Védrine, a commune of la Fage-Montivernoux, department of Lozère. (Ibid.)

(Le) Vedrinel, a commune of la Fage-Montivernoux, department of Lozère. (Ibid.)

Védrines, a commune of Vitrac, department of Aveyron. (Ibid.)

Védrines, a commune of Alleuze, department of Cantal. (Ibid.)

Védrines, a commune of Vieille-Brioude, department of Haute-Loire. (Ibid.)

Védrines, above the Chavanon, a commune of Messeix, department of Puy-de-Dôme. (Ibid.)

Vendrennes, arrondisement of Roche-sur-Yon. (Vivien Saint-Martin and Louis Rousselet, Nouveau Dictionnaire de Géographie Universelle. 7 vols. Paris: Librarie Hachette, 1892)

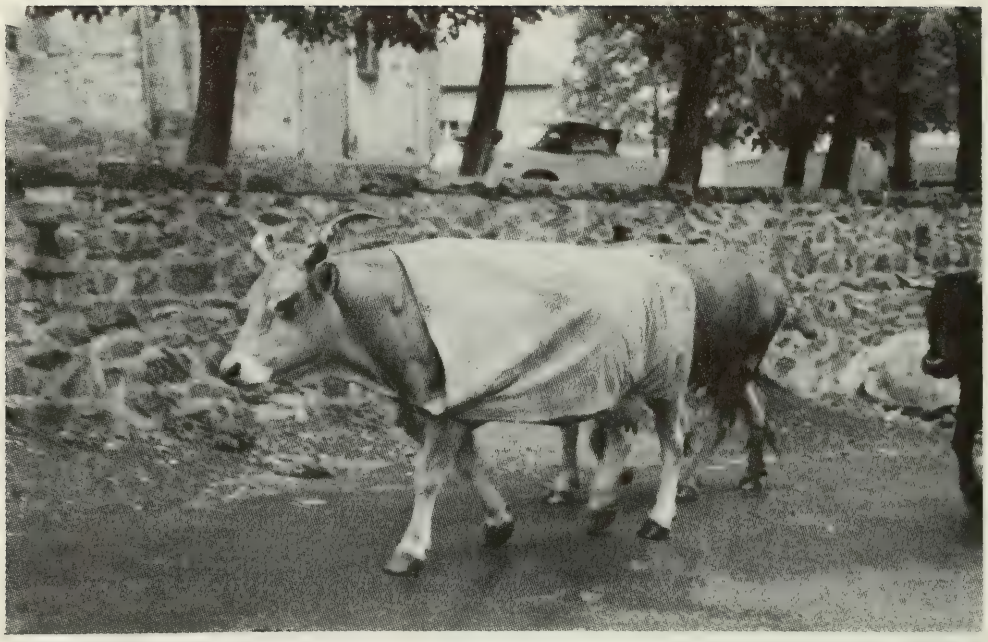
Védrines St. Loup, west of Le Puy,
is a tranquil village.

All those we spoke to said they knew that VEDRINES people existed but none lived in Védrines St. Loup. They had heard there were some living in St. Flour and Le Puy.

Védrines St. Loup. Side view of a split-level building that faces the main street.

The church at Védrines St. Loup

On the right a garden of flowers
and vegetables.



The main thoroughfare; these were its only traffic while we were there.

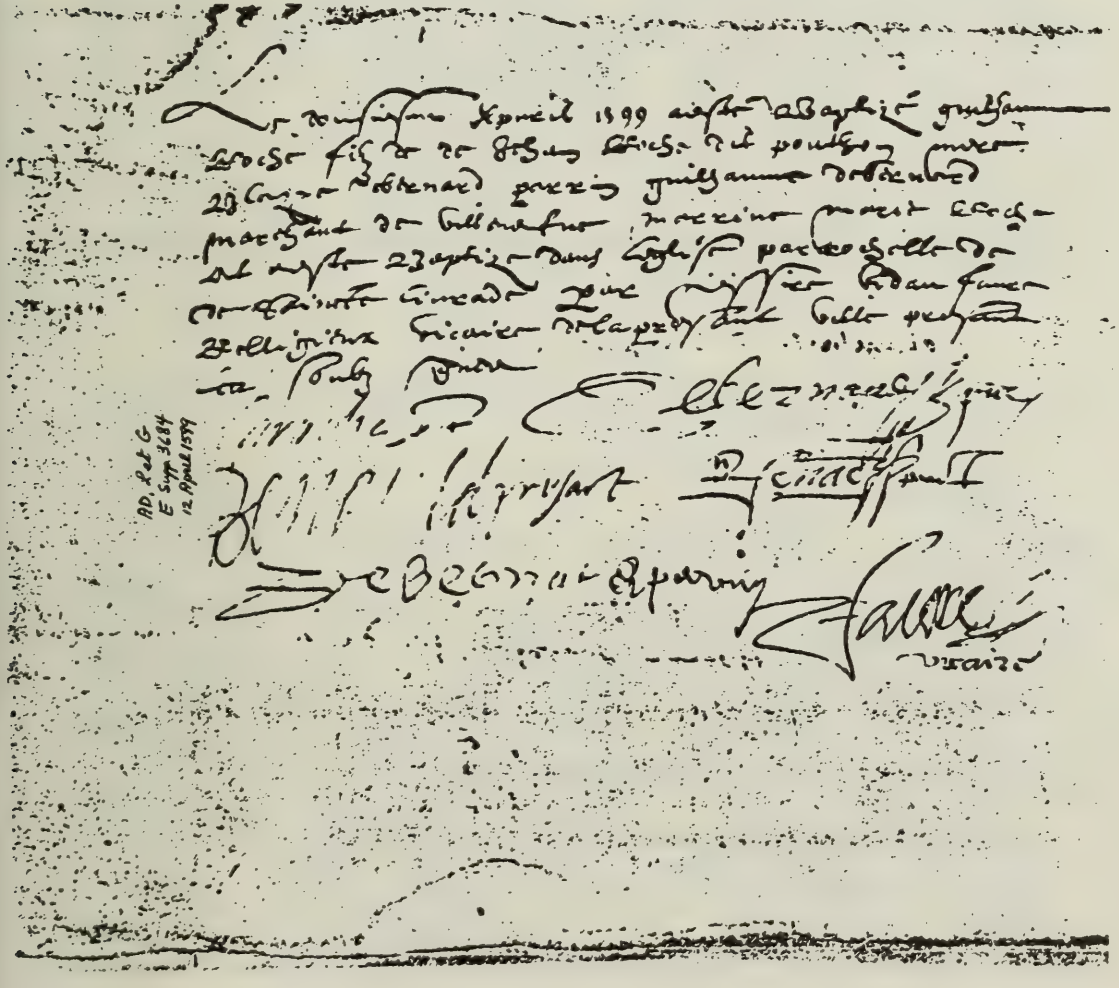
There was a sabotier who made and sold wooden shoes, but this man preferred rubber boots.

Appendix E

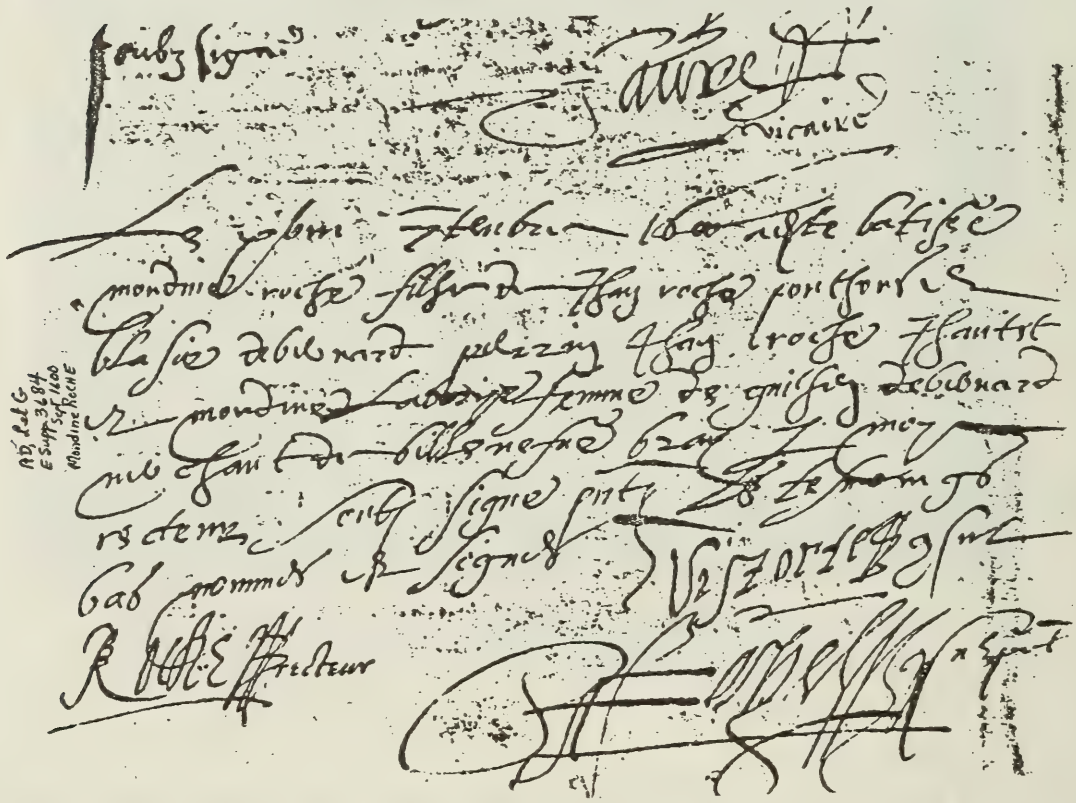
Related Documents

1. ROCHE-BERNARD baptisms referred to in Chapter IV.

a. Guillaume Roche son of Jean Roche and Blaise de Bernard

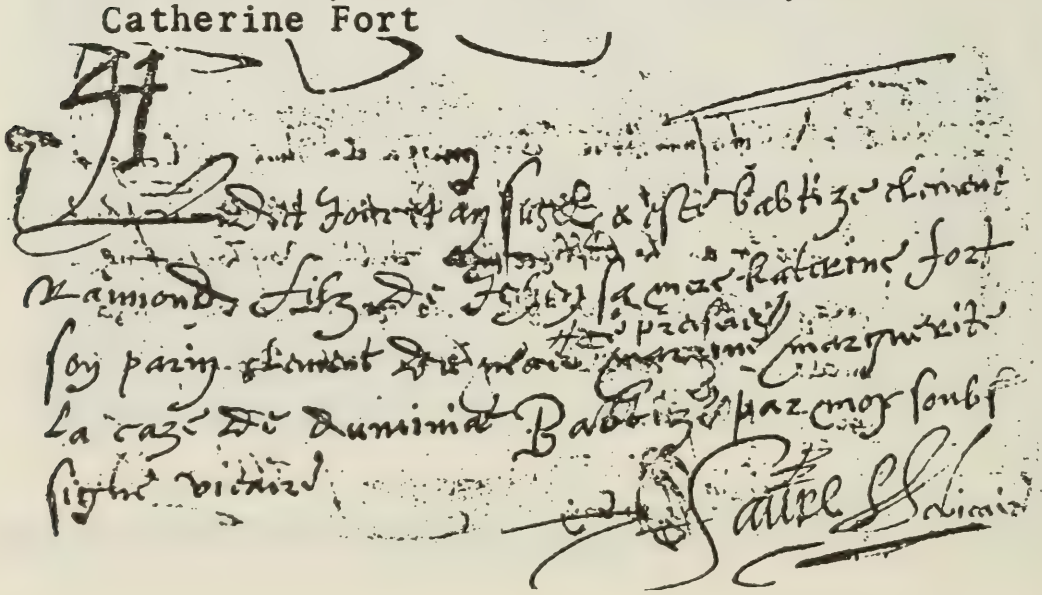


b. Mondine Roche daughter of Jean Roche and Blaise de Bernard

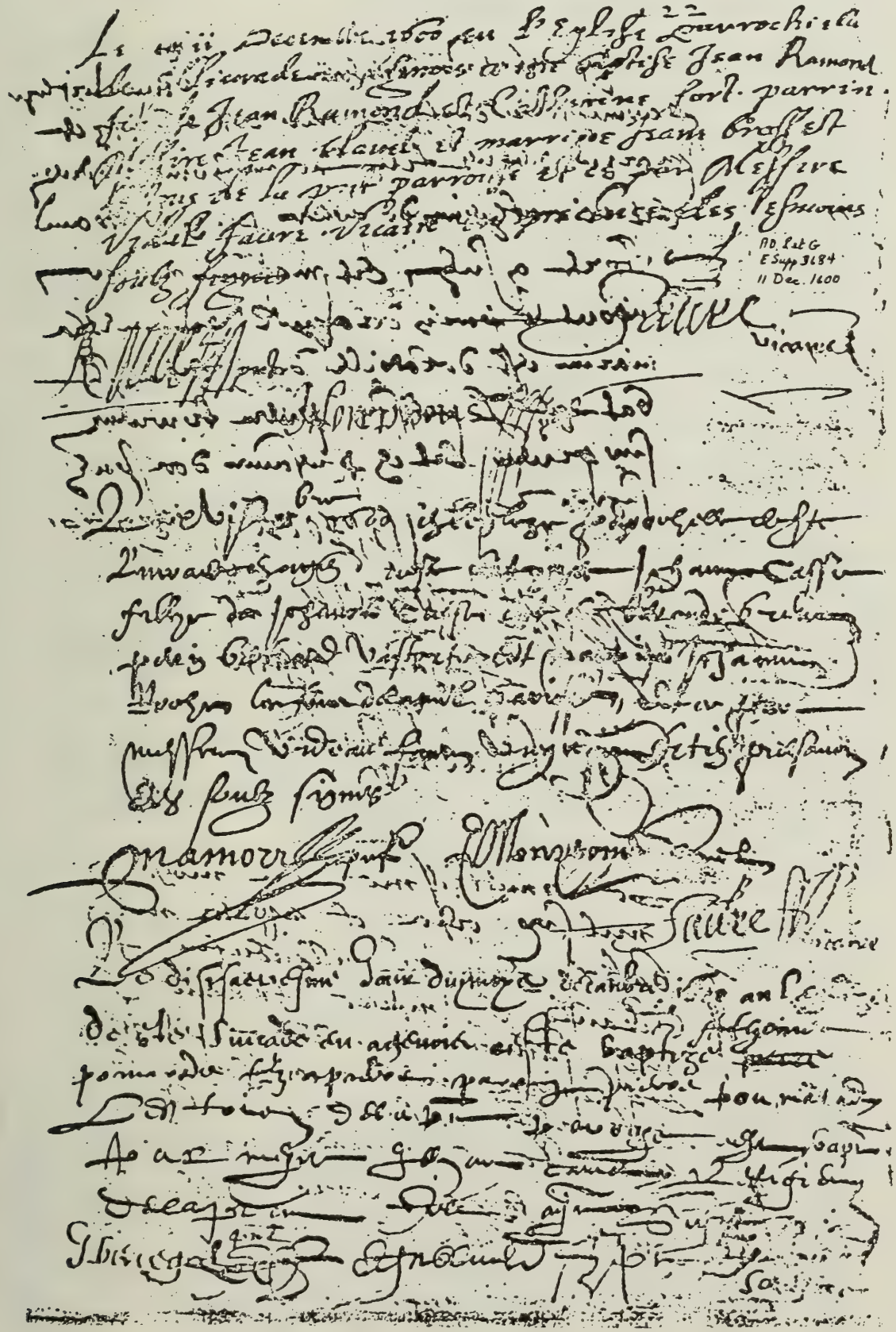


2. RAYMOND-FORT baptisms referred to in Chapter VIII.

a. Clement Raymond son of Jean Raymond and Catherine Fort

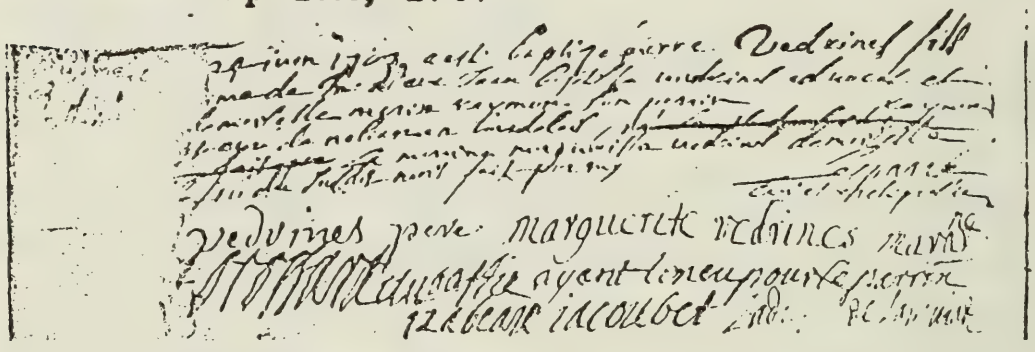


b. Jean Raymond son of Jean Raymond and Catherine Fort



3. PIERRE VEDRINES and his sons, referred to in Chapter VIII and Chapter IX.

a. His baptism, 1707



b. His marriage, 1737

EXTRAIT D'ACTE DE MARIAGE

ANNÉE 1735
FOLIO

Commune : PREIGNAC

Département : Gironde

Le vingt mars *mil* sept *cent* trente cinq

A ETÉ CÉLÉBRÉ LE MARIAGE ENTRE :

(1) Pierre VEDRINES

Maître ès arts, Bourgeois de la Ville de Sainte Livrade en Agenois

né à ———

le ——— *mil* *cent*

fils de Monsieur Jean Baptiste VEDRINES, Avocat en la Cour du département

et de Marie de RAYMOND

(2) A.M. Preignac 20 March 1735 gift of Marion Soileau, Sept. 1966

et (1) Delle Marie PINSAN

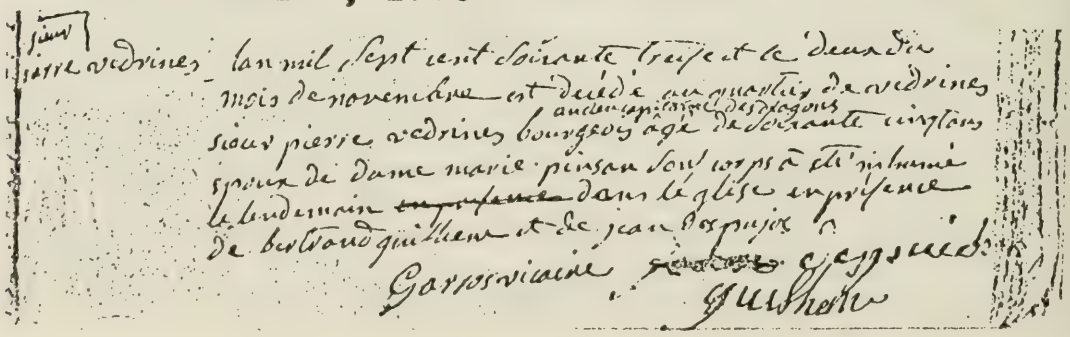
née à ———

le ——— *mil* *cent*

fille de sieur Bernard PINSAN

et de Margueritte PINSAN, habitants de cette paroisse

c. His burial, 1773



d. Baptism of his son Jean Baptiste (Preignac)

DÉPARTEMENT DE LA GIRONDE

MAIRIE
DE
PREIGNAC

BAPTEME Jean Baptiste VEDRINES
15 Mars 1737
-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-:-

Le quinzième du mois de Mars mille sept cent trente-sept a été baptisé sieur Jean Baptiste VEDRINES fils légitime de sieur Pierre VEDRINES et de demoiselle Marie PINSAN ses père et mère est né les mêmes jour et an que dessus. A été parrain sieur Jean Baptiste VEDRINES demeurant à Sainte-Livrade et marraine demoiselle Marguerite PINSAN qui ont signé avec moy .

JM Preignac
15 March 1737
gift of Jean VEDRINES
Paris, 1 Nov. 1972

e. Service record of Jean Baptiste (Preignac)

MINISTERE DE LA GUERRE

Etat-Major de l'Armée

SERVICE HISTORIQUE
Enreg. N° 912 r

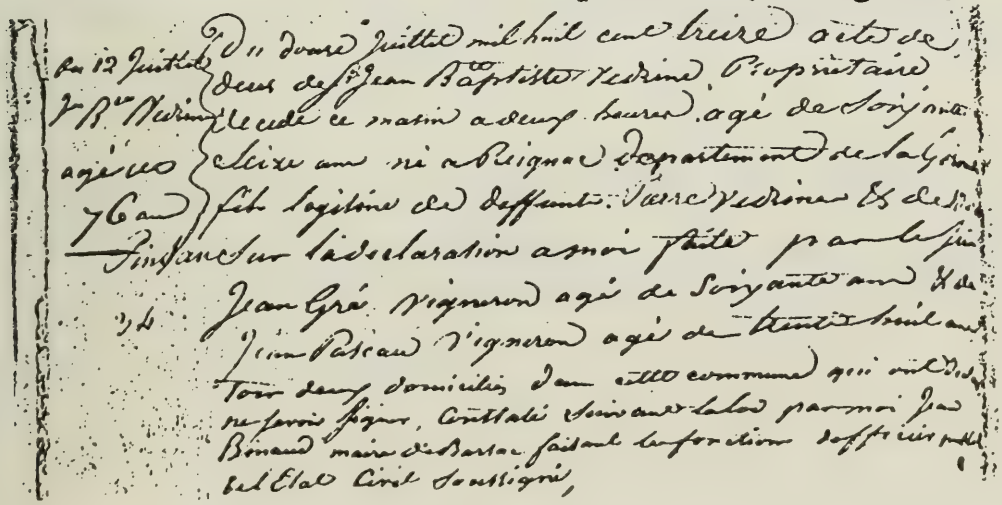
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE

RELEVE DE SERVICES

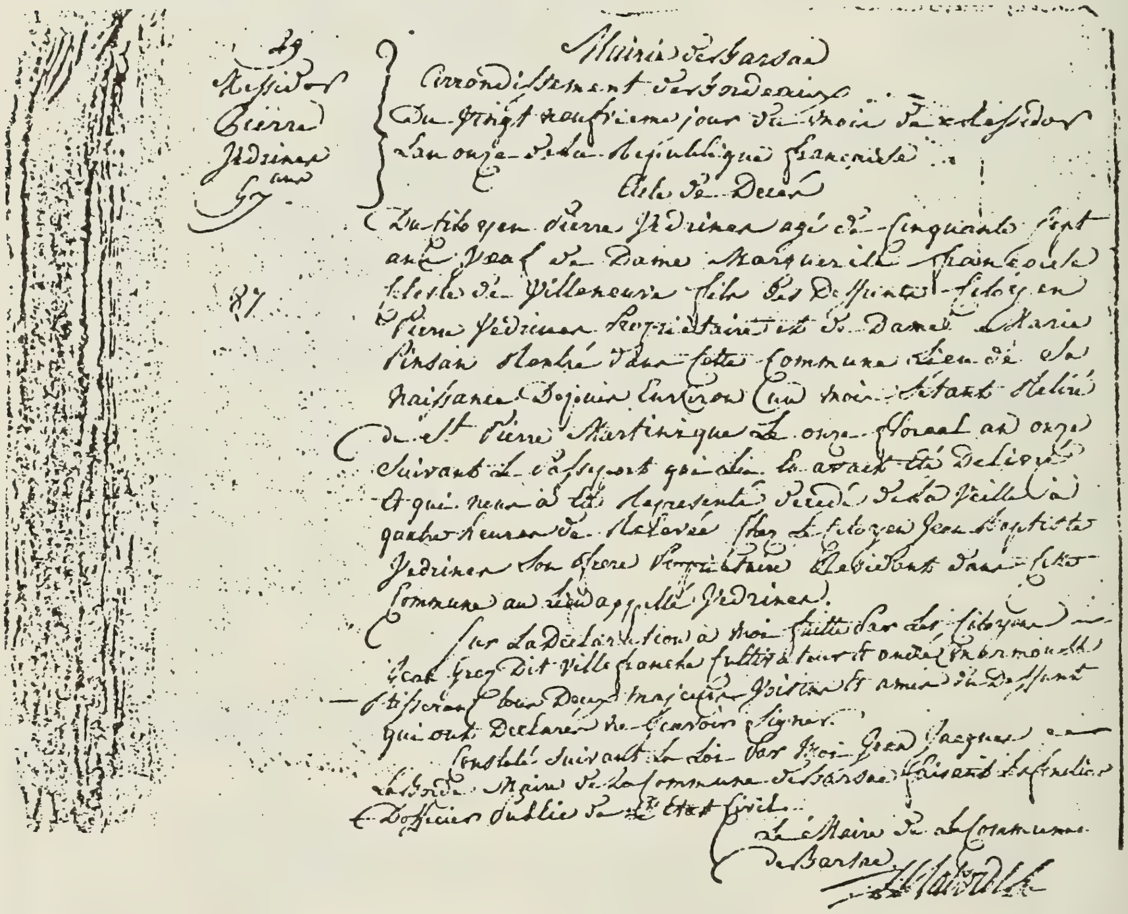
EMA/SH.A EXTRAIT des registres matricules et documents déposés au Ministère

Nom et signalement Militaire	DÉTAIL des SERVICES
DE VEDRINES Jean Baptiste né le 15 mars 1737 à Preignac, juridiction de Barzac, généralité de Bordeaux	Enseigne au Régiment de Piémont infanterie le 12 février 1757 Lieutenant le 16 mars 1757 Capitaine le 14 mars 1759 admis à une pension de 300 livres sur le Trésor Royal le 7 avril 1763 en qualité de capitaine réformé Remplacé à une compagnie le 24 septembre 1770 Admis à une pension de 600 livres sur le Trésor Royal le 27 février 1785 en considération de ses services et pour sa retraite.

f. Death record of Jean Baptiste (Preignac)



g. Death record of Pierre's son Pierre



29 Messidor
Pierre Jédrines
67 ans

87

Mairie de Barsac
Arrondissement de Bordeaux
Du vingt neuvième jour du mois de Messidor
L'an onze de la République Française
Acte de Décès

Du citoyen Pierre Jédrines agé de cinquante sept ans veuf de Dame Marguerite Françoise [illegible] de Villeneuve fils des deffunts citoyen Pierre Jédrines propriétaire et de Dame Marie Pinsan [illegible] de cette commune lieu de sa naissance depuis environ un mois [illegible] de St Pierre Martinique le onze floreal an onze suivant le passeport qui lui en avait été délivré et qui nous a été représenté décédé de la veille à quatre heures de relevée chez le citoyen Jean Baptiste Jédrines son frère propriétaire habitant dans cette commune au lieu appellé Jédrines.

Sur la déclaration à moi faite par les citoyens Jean Gros dit Villefranche [illegible] et [illegible] tous deux majeurs voisins et amis du deffunt qui ont déclaré ne savoir signer.

Constaté suivant la loi par moi Jean Jacques [illegible] Maire de la commune de Barsac faisant les fonctions d'officier public de l'état civil.

Le Maire de la Commune de Barsac [illegible]

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